



国家清史编纂委员会·编译丛刊影印系列

美国政府解密档案（中国关系）

美国驻中国广州领事馆领事报告 (1790—1906)

Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Canton, China,
1790-1906

广西师范大学出版社 组织整理

程焕文 审订

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GUANGXI NORMAL UNIVERSITY PRESS

广西师范大学出版社



“十一五”国家重点图书出版规划项目

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第十四册目录

序号	胶卷号	原文件号	文件拟目	文件时间	页码
001	M101-11	201	C. Seymour 表示收到请求提供的部分物品,但没有收到空白汇票	1890-7-2	1
002	M101-11	202	C. Seymour 分析了厘金税对外国贸易的限制,并提请国务院注意中国当局对进口商品征收新税的最新公告、行动和争论。Seymour 表示这可参考其第198、199 号信件,并报告他所采取的相关行动	1890-7-25	3
003	M101-11		C. Seymour 致两广总督的信件	1890-7-23	10
004	M101-12	203	C. Seymour 转送总督致广州领事的公文	1890-8-5	20
005	M101-12		附件:总督致美国领事 C. Seymour 的关于厘金税答复的译文的副本	1890-7-31	23
006	M101-12	204	C. Seymour 询问关于经加拿大的货物发货单的费用指令,并提及发往美国的广州货物装船的情况	1890-8-13	26
007	M101-12	205	C. Seymour 转送 1890 年第 3 季度的账目和报告	1890-9-30	32
008	M101-12	206	C. Seymour 报告蚕丝、蚕虫等样本通过 Theodore B. Cunningham 送往农业部,此人将于本月 13 日从香港乘船前往美国。附带 1 封 1891 年 3 月 4 日 Rocruwood 致 Sevellon A. Brown 的信件	1890-11-15	34
009	M101-12	207	C. Seymour 转送 1890 年第 4 季度的账目和报告	1890-12-31	38
010	M101-12		附件:广州领事馆雇员名单表	1890-12-31	40
011	M101-12		附件:广州领事馆 1890 年美国公民结婚登记表	1890-12-31	41
012	M101-12		附件:Egra Salomon Joseph 与 Adeline Stacy 的结婚证书	1890-12-6	42
013	M101-12		附件:R. Roswell H. Graves 与 J. L. Sanford 的结婚证书	1890-10-14	43
014	M101-12		附件:广州领事馆辖区的美国居民登记表	1890-12-31	44
015	M101-12	208	C. Seymour 转送增补账目	1891-1-5	47
016	M101-12	209	C. Seymour 报告:J. H. Chesneyd 提出养老金的申请	1891-1-28	49
017	M101-12	210	C. Seymour 转送 1891 年第 1 季度的账目和报告	1891-3-31	51
018	M101-12	211	C. Seymour 转送截至 1891 年 6 月 30 日的财政年度报告和账目	1891-6-30	53
019	M101-12	212	C. Seymour 报告:“Back Reach”号船开始用于航行	1891-7-16	55
020	M101-12	213	C. Seymour 报告广州及华南发生的事件的状况	1891-7-16	58

021	M101-12		附件:两广总督致 C. Seymour 的半正式照会的译文	1891-6-22	68
022	M101-12		附件:C. Seymour 致两广总督的信件	1891-6-24	70
023	M101-12	214	C. Seymour 报告石油的厘金税已经削减至每桶 20 美分,广州的消费将极大的增长	1891-8-17	74
024	M101-12	215	C. Seymour 转送 1891 年第 3 季度的账目和报告	1891-9-30	79
025	M101-12	216	C. Seymour 提请国务院注意广州及其周边发生的事件的情况	1891-12-3	81
026	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:张贴在广州周围的反对传教士的布告		88
027	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{B}$:布告的译文		89
028	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{C}$:C. Seymour 致两广总督信件的副本	1891-11-25	90
029	M101-12		附件 $\frac{3}{D}$:两广总督致 C. Seymour 的半正式照会的译文	1891-11-30	91
030	M101-12	217	C. Seymour 报告 Rev. Andrew Beattie 与 Ellen Edwards Hartwell 于 1891 年 11 月 9 日结婚,并附两人的结婚证书	1891-12-4	92
031	M101-12	218	C. Seymour 转送 1891 年第 4 季度和一年度的账目和报告	1891-12-31	94
032	M101-12		附件:1891 年全年广州领事馆登记的美国公民结婚名单	1891-12-31	97
033	M101-12		附件:广州领事馆辖区的美国居民登记表	1891-12-31	98
034	M101-12	219	C. Seymour 报告中国官员抵制商业贸易条约的约束,这对煤油及其他外国货物的进口产生影响	1892-2-26	101
035	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:关于厘金税的公告译文	1892-1-26	110
036	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:关于厘金税的公告译文	1892-2-18	112
037	M101-12		附件 $\frac{3}{C}$:C. Seymour 致两广总督的信件	1892-2-23	113
038	M101-12	220	C. Seymour 报告中国人消费的美国面粉的进口稳定增长	1892-2-27	117
039	M101-12	221	C. Seymour 报告中国的贸易障碍,特别是煤油进口的障碍,同时提请国务院注意 900 桶美国煤油被扣押一事,并说明负责上述事情的本地人亦被逮捕关押	1892-2-29	120

040	M101-12	222	C. Seymour 报告中国官员对广州和内地市场的外国货物的运送贸易设置障碍,可参考其第 219、221 号公文。在领事和中国当局之间关于这一问题的未决的争论中,Seymour 希望国务院同意他的方针	1892-3-12	123
041	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:关于厘金税的公告译文	1892-3-3	132
042	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:两广总督发出的关于过境通行的正式公文	1892-3-2	134
043	M101-12		附件 $\frac{3}{C}$:C. Seymour 致两广总督信件的副本	1892-3-10	138
044	M101-12		附件 $\frac{4}{D}$:W. Rocher 致 C. Seymour 的信件	1892-3-11	149
045	M101-12	223	C. Seymour 转送 3 月 17 日总督的相关公文的译文,报告过境贸易遇到的障碍,以及领事的相关行动	1892-3-19	150
046	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:两广总督致 C. Seymour 的正式答复的副本,内容与过境贸易有关	1892-3-17	157
047	M101-12	224	C. Seymour 报告广东省南部的 Yeung Kong 附近发生骚乱并提供骚乱的详细情节。Seymour 认为这是对中国官员权威的一次挑战,中国官员将派驻军队以维护其权威	1892-3-19	161
048	M101-12	225	C. Seymour 报告 1892 年 3 月 20 日发生暴动,1 个美国长老会教团的本地传教者的小礼拜堂和住处被抢掠和破坏,损失约达 100 美元	1892-3-23	164
049	M101-12	226	C. Seymour 报告为了垄断石油进口贸易而组成本地的辛迪加(联合企业),并认为它对美国的贸易有益	1892-3-25	167
050	M101-12	227	C. Seymour 转送 1892 年第 1 季度的账目和报告	1892-3-31	170
051	M101-12	228	C. Seymour 附寄来自《华南时报》(<i>The Chinese Southern Times</i>)的文章,内容关涉中国参加展览会的失策,并附相关评论	1892-5-20	172
052	M101-12		附件:《华南时报》发表的关于中国参加美国博览会的文章的译文	1892-5-18	178
053	M101-12	229	C. Seymour 任命 David Mac. Haffie 为副领事,任命 Chum Poy Woo 为代理领事。附寄合同等	1892-6-14	183
054	M101-12		附件:总领事 J. A. Lionard 同意 C. Seymour 的任命	1892-7-5	189
055	M101-12		附件:C. Seymour 和 D. M. Haffie 签订的协议	1892-6-14	190
056	M101-12		附件:C. Seymour 和 Chum Poy Woo 签订的协议	1892-6-14	191

057	M101-12	230	C. Seymour 请求休假 60 天去日本游览	1892-6-21	192
058	M101-12	231	C. Seymour 报告厘金征收官员敲诈勒索厘金或税款,在佛山因此引发了骚动。报告还提供了骚动的详细情节和结果	1892-6-28	194
059	M101-12	232	C. Seymour 转送 1892 年第 2 季度的账目和报告	1892-6-30	197
060	M101-12	233	C. Seymour 转送 1891 年汕头领事代办处的账目和发票	1892-7-4	199
061	M101-12	234	C. Seymour 报告中国和其他东亚国家进口欧洲和美国的产情况。(有简介无正文)	1892-8-18	204
062	M101-12	235	C. Seymour 报告由于 David Mac. Haffie 拒绝其任命,故任命 Fearon 为副领事	1892-9-13	205
063	M101-12		附件:C. Seymour 与 G. Fearon 签定的协议	1892-9-13	208
064	M101-12	236	C. Seymour 转送 1892 年第 3 季度的账目和报告	1892-9-30	212
065	M101-12	237	C. Seymour 提交 1892 年 11 月 4 日的月食观测报告	1892-11-5	214
066	M101-12	238	C. Seymour 报告:由于 Geo. D. Fearon 是 1 名商人,故收回对其作为副领事的任命	1892-11-23	216
067	M101-12	239	C. Seymour 表示已经收到同意其休假 60 天的第 150 号公文,但由于副领事还没任命,所以他没有休假	1892-11-23	219
068	M101-12	240	C. Seymour 转送了 1 份刊于中文和英文报纸上的呈递给朝廷的奏折,并提供上述奏折的注释,奏折报告了美国的中国籍居民遭受的不平等待遇,并分析它对美国与中国的贸易所产生的影响	1892-11-23	221
069	M101-12		附件:涉及中国驻美公使的奏折内容的英文剪报		224
070	M101-12	241	C. Seymour 报告 Chum Poy Woo 辞去代理领事一职	1892-12-29	225
071	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:Chum Poy Woo 致 C. Seymour 的辞职信的副本	1892-12-29	227
072	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:C. Seymour 致 Chum Poy Woo 的信件副本	1892-12-29	228
073	M101-12	242	C. Seymour 转送 1892 年第 4 季度的账目和报告	1892-12-31	229
074	M101-12	243	C. Seymour 报告关于世界展览会上中国展品的陈述是公正而可信的,并提供相关的详细情节	1893-2-24	231
075	M101-12	244	C. Seymour 报告由于美国排华,中国人必须付出金钱后,才允许随前往芝加哥中国城的展出者进入美国	1893-2-25	238

076	M101-12	245	C. Seymour 建议在从广州装船前往美国的货物发货单中,对扣除每一项出口税的必要条件进行一些修改。附寄 Deacon & Co. 的相关来信	1893-3-13	241
077	M101-12	246	C. Seymour 转送 1893 年第 1 季度的账目和报告	1893-3-31	246
078	M101-12		附件(表格 103):1893 年第 1 季度广州领事馆的事务摘要表	1893-3-31	248
079	M101-12		附件(表格 103):1893 年第 1 季度汕头领事代办处的事务摘要表	1893-3-31	249
080	M101-12	247	C. Seymour 报告有 200 名中国人声称是剧团成员,这是试图规避排华法案的行为。他提出参考第 155 号公文,统计已经乘船前往美国的中国人的数量,并向上海总领事提供相关电报的正文	1893-4-5	250
081	M101-12	248	C. Seymour 报告:中国当局发布公告禁止中国人向墨西哥移民;由于中国和墨西哥签有条约,因此这样的移民不仅不符合要求,还助长了向美国偷渡的事件	1893-4-15	257
082	M101-12	249	C. Seymour 报告由于排华法案,中国人鼓吹对美国采取报复	1893-4-15	260
083	M101-12	250	C. Seymour 转送广东棉花增长和消费的报告	1893-5-23	266
084	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:1891 年广东棉花增长和消费的报告	1893-5-23	271
085	M101-12	251	C. Seymour 报告由于排华法案,东亚的欧洲人催促中国人对美国人采取报复的政策。附寄上海、香港的英文报纸的摘录	1893-5-27	277
086	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:《华北每日新闻》(<i>The North China Daily News</i>)的社论摘要副本	1893-5-15	294
087	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:《华北每日新闻》的文章副本	1893-5-17	295
088	M101-12		附件 $\frac{3}{C}$:《德臣报》(<i>The China Mail</i>)的社论摘要副本	1893-5-19	297
089	M101-12	252	C. Seymour 表示这份文件是第 251 号公文的增补和继续部分。附寄 1892 年广州海关正式报告的摘录,显示厘金税阻碍了与内地进行的过境贸易	1893-5-31	300
090	M101-12		附件:1892 年的广州贸易报告	1893-1-20	303

091	M101-12	253	C. Seymour 报告最近试图煽动本地人暴动的行为遭到镇压。附带 1 封 1895 年 7 月 22 日致第 2 助理国务卿的信件	1893-6-5	307
092	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$: B. C. Henry 致 C. Seymour 的信件	1893-5-25	313
093	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$: Watters 致 C. Seymour 的信件	1893-5-29	314
094	M101-12	254	C. Seymour 转送 1893 年第 2 季度的账目和报告	1893-6-30	316
095	M101-12		附件(表格 121): 1893 年第 2 季度广州领事馆登记的美国公民死亡名单	1893-6-30	318
096	M101-12		附件(表格 103): 1893 年第 2 季度汕头领事代办处的事务摘要表	1893-6-30	319
097	M101-12		附件(表格 103): 1893 年第 2 季度广州领事馆的事务摘要表	1893-6-30	320
098	M101-12	255	C. Seymour 转送检疫法及规章	1893-7-7	321
099	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$: C. Seymour 的证明	1893-7-5	323
100	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$: 汕头领事代办的证明	1893-7-2	324
101	M101-12	256	C. Seymour 请求提供新的补给物品	1893-9-6	325
102	M101-12	257	C. Seymour 转送 1893 年第 3 季度的账目和报告	1893-9-30	331
103	M101-12	258	C. Seymour 报告翻译 Chum Poy Woo 辞职, 任命 Chu Watron 试用, 并说明寻获能干而值得信任的翻译十分困难	1893-10-3	333
104	M101-12	259	C. Seymour 报告输往巴西的澳门苦力贸易的复兴	1893-10-27	336
105	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$: 广东巡抚致澳门代理长官的信件译文的副本	1893-10-10	342
106	M101-12	260	C. Seymour 答复 1893 年 9 月 12 日的函件, 并报告领事馆的租借情况	1893-11-1	344
107	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$: 领事馆的图表		351
108	M101-12	261	C. Seymour 表示这是第 259 号公文的增补和继续部分, 内容与澳门至巴西的中国移民(苦力贸易)有关	1893-11-28	352
109	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$: 澳门代理长官致广东巡抚的信件的副本	1893-10-15	355

110	M101-12	262	C. Seymour 答复 1893 年 7 月 7 日的函件,表示美国的推销员需要在亚洲市场销售美国的货物。(有简介无正文)	1893-12-11	358
111	M101-12	263	C. Seymour 转送 1893 年第 4 季度的账目和报告	1893-12-31	359
112	M101-12	264	C. Seymour 报告任命 Hung Tsun Ki 为翻译	1894-1-4	361
113	M101-12	265	C. Seymour 表示此公文是第 259、261 号公文的增补和继续部分,内容与中国移民和苦力贸易有关	1894-1-29	364
114	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{B}$:《德臣报》的剪报:《从澳门至巴西的移民》	1894-1-23	371
115	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{B}$:关于澳门总督致香港总督的公文的更正		372
116	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:《孖刺沙西报》(<i>The Daily Press</i>)的剪报	1894-1-25	373
117	M101-12	266	C. Seymour 转送报导关于巴西市场上的中国苦力的印刷品	1894-3-7	375
118	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:《孖刺沙西报》的剪报	1894-2-13	378
119	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:《士蔑西报》(<i>The HongKong Telegraph</i>)的剪报	1894-2-24	379
120	M101-12	267	C. Seymour 转送 1894 年第 1 季度的账目和报告	1894-3-31	380
121	M101-12	268	C. Seymour 附寄广州货物的价格表	1894-5-19	382
122	M101-12	269	C. Seymour 报告在广州和中国其他地方流行瘟疫,并详述瘟疫的起因和发展。附带 1 份 1894 年 5 月 30 日《士蔑西报》的剪报	1894-6-2	385
123	M101-12	270	C. Seymour 报告更多有关瘟疫的细节,香港和广州皆成为疫区,凡是从这两个疫区到美国的人都要经过观察	1894-6-6	392
124	M101-12	271	C. Seymour 报告:海南琼州的美国居民请求在琼州任命 1 名领事代办,并希望英国领事就任这一职位	1894-6-8	397
125	M101-12	272	C. Seymour 报告其领事管辖区的暴民行为和瘟疫的情形,包括 2 个传教士遭到袭击但最后获救等事件	1894-6-27	400
126	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:《香港周报》(<i>The HongKong Weekly Press</i>)的摘录	1894-6-16	411

127	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:美、英、法、德 4 国领事致广州巡抚的电报副本	1894-6-11	412
128	M101-12		附件 $\frac{3}{C}$:总督衙门致 4 国领事的回电副本	1894-6-11	413
129	M101-12		附件 $\frac{4}{D}$:李瀚章总督致 C. Seymour 的信件及总督的命令	1894-6-12	414
130	M101-12		附件 $\frac{5}{E}$:C. Seymour 致两广总督信件的副本	1894-6-15	417
131	M101-12		附件:Regina M. Biglee 和 Susan L. Halverson 的誓约	1894-6-15	425
132	M101-12		附件:茶叶店、杂货店兼肉店、杂货店兼鱼店的店名名录		426
133	M101-12		附件 $\frac{6}{F}$:总督衙门致 C. Seymour 的公文译文	1894-6-17	427
134	M101-12		附件 $\frac{7}{G}$:《香港周报》的摘录		428
135	M101-12	273	C. Seymour 转送 1894 年第 2 季度的账目和报告	1894-6-30	429
136	M101-12	274	C. Seymour 报告广州及其附近地区的事况和瘟疫的减少,并陈述暴民行为对不同的教堂所造成的损失。报告还涉及对部分罪犯的惩罚,以及对损失的赔偿情况	1894-7-18	431
137	M101-12	275	C. Seymour 答复 1894 年 6 月 15 日的函件,报告与发货单相关的流通证明得以发行	1894-7-27	440
138	M101-12	276	C. Seymour 转送 1894 年第 3 季度的账目和报告	1894-9-30	446
139	M101-12	277	C. Seymour 转送 1894 年第 4 季度的账目和报告	1894-12-31	448
140	M101-12	278	C. Seymour 附寄旧金山收税员和领事之间的通信,通信内容与提交发货单的副本给旧金山方面有关	1895-3-5	450
141	M101-12		附件:旧金山海关征收员 E. B. Jerome 致 C. Seymour 信件的副本	1895-1-31	453
142	M101-12		附件:C. Seymour 致 E. B. Jerome 信件的副本	1895-3-5	454
143	M101-12	279	C. Seymour 报告广州及其附近地区的事况,并表示获悉事实后,他担心战争爆发	1895-3-26	455
144	M101-12	280	C. Seymour 转送 1895 年第 1 季度的账目和报告	1895-3-31	462

145	M101-12	281	C. Seymour 报告并评论澳门的苦力贸易(从澳门到非洲)重新开始	1895-3-31	464
146	M101-12	282	C. Seymour 报告美国与欧洲在亚洲地区的战争结果	1895-3-31	467
147	M101-12	283	C. Seymour 报告美国长老会教使团的索赔请求得到圆满解决,此次索赔是针对 1895 年 2 月 18 日 Yeung Kong 的暴民行为所造成的财产损失,而且他已将此事告知公使	1895-5-23	469
148	M101-12		C. Seymour 报告第 171 号公文所需求的炸弹之类的市场价格	1895-8-1	472
149	M101-12		C. Seymour 致 George C. Tichenor 的信件的副本,内容是关于炸弹的报告	1895-7-29	474
150	M101-12	284	C. Seymour 报告汕头的 Rev. Wm. Ashmore 土地诉讼案的解决。Seymour 认为,在这个案子中,汕头的行会和中国的地方当局合谋通过介入冲突来剥夺 Ashmore 的土地。报告详述了案件的始末,并把努力达成的最终结果通报领事代办、领事及北京公使	1895-8-1	478
151	M101-12		W. Ashmore 致 C. Seymour 信件的副本	1895-7-22	488
152	M101-12	285	C. Seymour 表示已经收到 1895 年 7 月 2 日的函件,并准备将合同寄给签约人签字	1895-9-3	491
153	M101-12	286	C. Seymour 报告东亚与美国之间的运输情况,声称一些安排有利于亚洲的出口,但不利于美国的出口。对于有损美国利益的海洋战争,需要严厉的措施,以确保到达亚洲市场的交通更为便利。(有简介无正文)	1895-9-7	493
154	M101-12	287	C. Seymour 报告 Woo Kwok Tsai 有资格再度任翻译。附寄领事馆的职位表	1895-9-14	494
155	M101-12	288	C. Seymour 报告广州及其附近地区的事态,评论当下的局势,并把发生的一系列动乱归因于此。附寄关于中国南方的危险叛乱的剪报	1895-11-18	499
156	M101-12		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$:《德臣报》的剪报	1895-11-7	505
157	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:标题为“华南的威胁性叛乱”的剪报	1895-11-2	505
158	M101-12		附件 $\frac{2}{B}$:《香港新闻》(<i>The HongKong Press</i>)的剪报	1895-10-30	506

159	M101-12		附件 ³ / _C :《德臣报》的剪报	1895-10-30	507
160	M101-12		附件 ⁴ / _D :《德臣报》的报导,广东叛乱活动升级,部分人被逮捕		508
161	M101-12	288bis	C. Seymour 表示这封公文是其第 286 号公文的后续部分,内容亦是关于东亚和美国之间的运输。他在报告中建议从纽约到东亚的美国汽船运费需要一个廉价的比率,即英国汽船的大海运同盟所使用的独立汽船的廉价比率。(有简介无正文)	1895-12-27	509



Seymour

No. 201

Consulate of the United States,

Canton. July 2nd, 1890

Mr. Seymour

To the **Department of State.**

SUBJECT:

Blank Drafts

Und. Aug 15/90

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 201

Consulate of the United States.

July 2nd, 1890.

Honorable

Wm. F. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the box of stationery, flags, blank-books, &c, requested in my No. 191 of February 13, 1890, came to hand; but, as yet, the blank drafts requested have not come to this Consulate.

Yours, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

Commodore Bee



No. 202

Consulate of the United States,

Canton July 25th, 1890



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

"Skin" restrictions on foreign commerce.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Recent proclamations, proceedings, and controversy, in regard to new levies by Chinese authorities on various imports. Continuation of subject matter of dispatches numbered 198 and 199.

No 202

Consulate of the United States.

July 25th, 1892

Honorable

Wm. J. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in continuation of the report under of my No 198 of 28th ult., and No 199 of 30th ult., to inform you in regard to proclamations, contrary and proceedings about the attempts or endeavors of the Chinese authorities of the Tientsin, to get increased income upon various articles of import; and to change the system of allowing extraction or "fariners", or registered native speculators to collect the "Lekin" and similar taxes, by transferring their collection to the Chinese authorities Customs Department at the Customs House, between Canton and the sea board, and at Canton, or by the Board of Leken Commissioners, or Leken Officials.

At every step His Excellency the Viceroy, Li Han Chang, the elder brother of the Minister Li Hsing Chang) has been embarrassed by the restrictions of Foster's return China and the great European Powers; respecting which, H.C. the Viceroy seemed to be not very familiar. His official experience has not brought him much into contact or intercourse with foreigners; towards whom he is very courteous and kind.

Formerly, after agreeing to the Proclamation of the "Lekin" officials two months ago to raise the "Lekin" on opium; the British Legation at Peking, and the British Consulate at Canton, made vigorous resistance on behalf of British merchants in Hong Kong and elsewhere; and it only required a word from the able Inspector General of Imperial Maritime Customs to convince the Chinese Government that this additional Lekin on opium was in violation of Treaty stipulations. Accordingly the Viceroy had to back down from the opium scheme. Now His Excellency has been determined to increase the "Lekin", or tax, or dues, on Cotton, Cotton Yarn, matches, &c.; but was persuaded to abandon his purpose to increase the Lekin on Kerosene, as intimated in my No. 199, of 30. October.

The additional "Lekin" on matches affects
German and Japanese trade more than
that of other nationalities.

The additional "Lekin" on Cotton, and
Cotton yarn, of which large quantities
are imported (from India chiefly) for
manufacturing purposes in Kiangtung
Province, chiefly and most severely
affects British interests and trade; but
there are so many Chinese buyers
and manufacturers interested; and so
many nationalities represented in
the selling and importing of these
goods; that the objections to further
levies upon Cotton and Cotton yarn
come from many sources, and combine
many influences.

When the Viceroy found
that the Custom House Authorities, or
Department in China declined to collect
this additional Lekin because it
violated treaty stipulations as to import
duty on such goods, a new Proclamation
was issued, and published in the native
paper of Canton, stating this Lekin would
be collected by the Board of Lekin Commission;

That it is not a "tax", but
 "a Coast-Defense contribution".
 Against this "Coast-Defense
 Contribution", which is an outward
 substitute for the old term "Lekin",
 remonstrance and more vigorous opposition is
 made by various foreign representatives;
 as the "Coast-Defense contribution"
 imparts to the said tax or duty a national
 character; & seems to be more than "Lekin",
 which has been hitherto regarded as an inland
 tax, or for internal revenue and purposes.
 However, in the proclamation issued
 by the Chinese Authorities, matters
 are treated separately; Cotton and other
 in a second proclamation; and Revenue by itself.
 So much has been said and done, that
 it is not safe to let matters remain in their
 present shape; as each Proclamation has a
 clause to the effect "Besides the Lekin mentioned
 in these articles, 'the dues and Lekin arrangements
 in the interior will remain in force'.
 It is of the utmost importance
 that the "Lekin" arrangements which
 so effectively promoted trade with the
 interior should be broken up or modified.

This entire system of "Lekin" ~~levies~~ in addition to import duties upon foreign goods at and in the ports and cities of China open to trade is clearly forbidden by treaties entered into by Great Britain, Germany, and France, with China; and foreign merchants ought not to be shut out of the benefits of trade with the interior by innumerable "Lekin"-stations, at which "Lekin" collectors detain goods of foreigners and nations, without any regard to the treaty stipulations; which exempt all such goods from all dues, or duties, or levies of any kind, after the import or export duty, and additional half duty has been paid as transit duty.

Consuls representing seven nationalities met at this consulate this week to act in conjunction in efforts to get foreign commerce exempt from these "Lekin" exactions; and it is intimated that several of the Legations will vigorously act in the same direction.

1/A
 appended, and marked $\frac{1}{A}$, is a copy
 of my dispatch to His Excellency
 the Viceroy on the subject of "Chin".

A copy of this dispatch goes to
 the United States Legation.

Each of the Consuls sent similar
 dispatches, a more or less in harmony
 with the views presented by the United
 States Consul.

The Consuls of Great Britain,
 Germany, France, Portugal, Sweden
 & Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands,
 and Japan heartily concur.

Appreciating the position and
 action taken in this matter by
 me will have your approval,

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant
 Charles Seymour
 Consul General.

July 23
1890
OASU

To His Excellency,
Viceroy of the Two Rivers.

Sir,

Viceroy of the Two Rivers.

The subject of "Le Kin" has been brought and kept prominently before the reading and business public for the past two months, by the official and semi-official notices, proclamations, correspondence, and proceedings, of the Chinese authorities, officials, Le Kin and Customs Departments; and by the native and foreign newspapers along the Coast of China; and as this "Le Kin" business has thus attracted the attention of both native and foreign merchants, and seems likely to occupy the attention of the Chinese Government and foreign Legations and Governments for a considerable time, before the commercial interests of all concerned are relieved from the disturbed condition of business affairs caused by the somewhat confusing proceedings referred to in respect to "Le Kin"; it is proper that Your Excellency should be respectfully reminded of certain clearly and well-defined rights of foreign merchants, under existing treaties, which are ^{entered} into by China and various foreign Powers for the promotion of peace, amity, & commerce.

In all of these Treaties, special provision is made for trade, not only at the ports open to commerce, but with the interior under what has been designated as the transit pass system; and in ^{nearly} all of these Treaties there is what is known as the "most favored nation clause or article", which confers upon all foreign Nations the rights conferred by China to the Nation acquiring the most favorable treaty rights, as a basis of equity and equality as to facilities for trade.

In several of these Treaties stipulations as to the tariff of import & export duties to be levied by China have limitations.

And for the promotion of trade between the open Ports and the interior, provision is made for payment of all "transit dues", by the collection at the Custom House of additional half-duty, which should exempt Merch. thus conveyed to and from the interior from all other levies or dues.

Now, the foreign merchants at the Port of Canton find that trade with the interior has been and still is impracticable by reason of the numerous exactions & obstacles interposed by "Lekin" Officials; until the published trade returns of the Custom House show extinction of the interior transit trade.

Not only have foreign merchants thus been deprived of the benefits of trade between this port and the interior; but they are also restricted as to trade with the native merchants in the port itself by reason of the existence of "Lekin" stations and ^{examination of} "Lekin" Officials & Collectors, almost under the shadow of, and within a few minutes walk from, the Canton Custom House.

In the year 1886 an arrangement was entered into between the "Tung Li Samen", and His Excellency, the German Minister, who represented the foreign Legation, at Peking; by which foreign Consuls were to be definitely informed by the Chinese authorities in the several ports open to trade and commerce, as to the locations of all "Lekin-stations" on the various trade-routes between the open ports and interior markets; so that persons in charge of merchandise between such ports and interior markets might know where to call for the inspection or examination of goods "in transit", as required by treaty for trade with the interior; but His Excellency's predecessor refused to supply any such list of "Lekin-stations" to the Consuls for foreign merchants.

By seizures of cargo, and boats, and boatmen, and delays of various kinds, and imprisonment of natives employed by foreign merchants in conveying foreigners goods, the "Lekin" officials and Contractors continued to make it very troublesome for foreign merchant at Canton during the past few years.

Now that the subject of "Lekin" has been brought prominently into view, the foreign Consuls deem it proper to present the facts to the several Legations at Peking; and Your Excellency is respectfully requested to examine the Articles of existing Treaties; and establish regulations in accordance with those clearly expressed treaty stipulations to facilitate trade, not only at and in this Port of Canton and its immediate vicinity; but also between this Port and the interior markets.

Applying "the most favored nation article" to the facilities for developing commerce between American and other foreign merchants with native traders, merchants, and manufacturers, at and in the Port of Canton, and between this Port and interior markets, Your Excellency is respectfully asked to consider that Articles II, VIII, of the Treaty of Nanking, August 29, 1842, between China and Great Britain; and Articles IX, XI, XIII, XIV, and XXV III, with accompanying Tariff, and Rule VII ^{of their Treaty of 1858 at Peking}, all show that China conceded to foreigners the right to carry on mercantile business and trade at the Cities & Towns & ports open to commerce; and to carry on trade with whomsoever they please; to proceed to & from in developing "transit trade" with the interior.

By reference to the treaty of 1858 between China and the United States of America, it appears Article XV clearly concedes that "at each of the ports open to commerce, Citizens of the United States," "shall be permitted to import from abroad," "and sell, purchase, and export all merchandise," "of which the importation is not prohibited by the laws of the Empire."

By referring to Articles XV and XXIV of the Treaty between China and Germany^{in 1861}, there are similar tariff restrictions to those embodied in the treaties between China and Great Britain, France, and the Powers; and similar provisions for carrying on transit trade with the interior. In the clearest possible terms, Article XXIV, of the Treaty of 1861, between China and Germany, declares -

"Goods on which duties have been paid in any of the ports open to foreign trade, upon being sent into the interior of the country shall not be subject to any but transit duty (which is half additional duty). The same shall be paid according to the tariff now existing, and may not be raised in future. This also applies to goods sent from the interior of the country to any of the open ports."

"All transit dues, ^{on produce} brought from the interior to any of the open ports, or importations sent from any of the open ports into the interior of China, may be paid once for all."

"If any of the Chinese officials violate"
 "the stipulations of this Article by demanding"
 "illegal or higher duties than allowed by law,"
 "they shall be punished according to Chinese law".

Especial attention is called to the explicit language of Article XXIV of the German Treaty with China last referred to and quoted; as it declares that "the goods" shall not be subject to any but "transit duty"; and it is thus clearly forbidden to subject ^{such} goods, in transit to or from the interior, to any additional levy, whether in the hands of or owned by natives or foreigners. The "goods" are exempt; and the levies of "Lekin" or other officials, or contractors, on such "goods" on which the "transit duty" (or half-additional duty) has been paid, is apparently and manifestly in violation of treaty stipulations.

And, too, Your Excellency is respectfully asked to consider the important fact, that in all of these Treaties, foreign merchants are permitted to carry on trade at and in the ports & cities open to foreign commerce; & that they are not restricted to the border, edge, corner, frontage, or outskirts of the port or city; such as Shamien, on which, for reasons of convenience and safety, many of the foreign merchants dwell. Such being the actual facts, why should foreign merchants, after paying the prescribed duty on imported goods, be restrained from selling their goods to native merchants, dealers, & consumers, at & in this open port of Canton, by other exactions than are specified in the tariff of duty on imports?

The only attempt to impose limitations as to the area of exemption from "Leikin" by official sanction of any foreign Government was in the Chefoo Convention of 1876, between H.E. Li Hung Chang on behalf of the Chinese Government, and Sir Thomas Francis Wade on behalf of the British Government; when the British Minister agreed to move, propose, or suggest, to his Government certain limitations, which never received the sanction, approval of his Government; but which, in the succeeding Convention, between the Earl of Salisbury and the late Viscount Marquis Tenny, was reserved for further consideration between the two Governments. So that proposition or suggestion as to limitations of the area of Leikin exemption remains null and void, and of no effect.

The Consuls, on behalf of foreign merchants, respectfully ask that the rights conferred by Treaty to carry on trade at & in the "open ports," and especially in Canton, shall not be rendered nugatory by levies against foreign goods on which full duty has been paid; by either under the name of "Leikin," or "Coast-Defense contribution," or other designation; and that goods thus imputed, shall, upon payment of the duty provided by Treaty, be exempt from all other levies or duties of whatever nature at & in the port or City of Canton, and its immediate suburbs, for the distance indicated by the Treaty as the area within which merchants require no passports.

And as great inconvenience has been experienced by American & other foreign merchants in their successful efforts to develop trade between this port & the interior markets, by the detention & seizure of imported goods, including Kerosene; and the delay & seizure of native boats engaged in conveying such goods; for days, weeks, & months, within the City and port of Canton, after the import duty and the transit duty or half-additional duty had been paid; and the sale of such goods to native dealers & consumers in the interior has been prevented by those delays, seizures, and annoyances, usually imposed by "Chin" officials or contractors, with the countenance or support of the authorities; until the Customs returns show "almost complete suppression & prevention of traffic with the interior under the transit pass system provided for by Treaties; Your Excellency is respectfully asked to proclaim that goods may be conveyed from the port of Canton and interior markets in compliance with the provisions specified in Article XXVIII of the Treaty of 1858 between China & Great Britain and Rule VII as to trade & transit dues in said Treaty; and with Article XXIV of the Treaty of 1861 between China & Germany; and other articles of existing Treaties for the promotion of commerce between the open ports and the interior of China.

It is desirable that all ambiguity or doubt on this business should be set aside by the full recognition of the language in said Article XXIV of the German Treaty, which distinctly & clearly declares - "All transit dues on produce from the interior to any of the open ports, or importations sent from any of the open ports into the interior of China, may be paid once for all."

~~If any plainer or clearer language~~
 is needed, to show the agreement between
 China and foreign Powers, about their
 business of carrying on trade between the
 "open ports" & interior markets of China, reference
 might be made to Articles VI & VII of the "Trade
 Regulations," signed at Peking April 25th 1887,
 between China & France.

After specifying the payment of
 import duty, and "transit duty" or additional
 half duty, and issue of "transit pass",
 it was stipulated - "Under these conditions,
 no new duties will be levied at the interior"
 ferriers or ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ stations." And in regard to
 goods from the interior to the open port, it was
 also stipulated that after payment of the
 "transit duty" and export duty, all such goods
 will be allowed to pass free, & to be sent beyond
 the frontier".

If it is then stipulated that
 the payment of "transit duty," or half
 additional half duty, exempts goods from
~~at~~ ⁱⁿ and all other dues or duties between
 "the open port" & the interior markets;
 on what reasonable pretext can goods,
 on which import duty has been paid,
 be subject to ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ or other duties, or
 Coast Defense contributions, when the goods are sold
 & consumed at the Port ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the City, to which
 where foreign merchants are permitted to carry
 on trade? It is apparently clear that foreign
 trade at these ports is only subject to Custom House duty.

The published proclamations in regard to "Lekin" or "Coast Defense contributions" on Cotton, Cotton Yarn, & Kerene, leave one in doubt as to what is intended by the reference to Dues and Lekin in the interior, respecting which the proclamations say "old regulations will be in force".

Now, as the Treaty herein quoted provide in clear and explicit terms that goods on which import duty, and transit duty (= additional half duty), shall have been paid, are exempt from all other dues, or duties, or levies, whatever, and can be sent to and sold in the interior markets to whomsoever foreign merchants may please; Will Your Excellency have any objections to so proclaim the facts, in order that all misunderstanding may be removed in regard to the transit trade with the interior; and also that the payment of export duty, and additional half duty or transit duty, on Chinese produce and goods purchased and brought from the interior for exportation, shall be exempt from any other duty, Lekin, or levy for "Coast Defense contributions", or other purposes?

And, too, Will Your Excellency carry into effect the agreement, ^{of 1856} between the "Tung Li Yama" & Foreign Legations as to list of Lekin-stations, at which goods "in transit" will be subject to inspection on the trade routes between Canton & interior markets?

With renewed assurances of highest esteem, the American Consul sends compliments & card.

Your Excellency's Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour, U.S. Consul.



No. 209



Mr. Faxon
Mr. Seaverson

Consulate of the United States,

August 5th 1890.

Mr. Seaverson

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Viceroy's dispatch to the
Consuls at Canton on
"Le Kin".

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Copy of translation of Viceroy's dispatch
inclosed in regard to "Le Kin".

No. 203

Consulate of the United States.

August 5th 1890.

Honorable Mr. Wharton.

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of translation of a dispatch received from His Excellency "Li," Viceroy of the Two Kiangs, in reply to the dispatch I sent to him under date of 23rd ultimo on the subject of "Lekin," a copy of which accompanied my No. 202, dated July 25th 1890, to the Department of State.

When a copy of the translation addressed to H. E. the Viceroy about the same time, on the same subject, and he sent to each and all of the Consuls the same reply, as per copy of translation inclosed.

In no instance have the points
raised by the Consuls been
noticed or answered by H.E. the Viceroy,
who merely asserts the right of
the Chinese authorities to levy
any amount they please upon
Chinese subjects; from whom only,
H.E. the Viceroy erroneously or incorrectly
alleges, the 'lekin' dues are collected.

The real point for which
foreigners or foreign merchants
must claim reparation by the
Chinese authorities, in order to secure
trade with the interior, is afforded
in the German treaty with China,
quoted in my dispatch of 23rd February to
H.E. the Viceroy, viz. that after payment
of import duty, and additional half-duty
as "transit duty", the goods are exempt
from all other duties whatsoever, regardless
of ownership. Hence the Consuls have sent
H.E. the Viceroy's reply to their respective Legations
at Peking, to show how foreign goods are enabled
to reach the interior.

One inclosure

I am, Sir, Dear Sir, Dear Sir,

Charles Seymour
H. J. G. S.



Reply from the Viceroys to U.S. Consul at Canton, on "Lexin."

Translation.

The Viceroys of the Two Kiangs has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Honorable Consul's communication relative to the proclamations issued by the Kiangtung and Lexin Departments imposing additional dues upon cotton, cotton yarn, matches, etc., and to state that communications of the same purport have been received from the Consuls of the different nationalities.

It appears that the communication under acknowledgment redundantly discusses to no other end than that treaty stipulations have not been complied with and that foreign merchants are sustaining losses. As to these two points, the Honorable Consul has no need, whatever of being excessively anxious. The stipulations contained in the treaties clearly show that foreign merchants at ports open to commerce pay merely foreign duties. The dues under consideration at present are levied from Chinese merchants without affecting foreign merchants in the least. For Chinese officials to levy Lexin dues upon Chinese mercantile subjects, no matter whether they are light or heavy, whether they exist or not, it is the province of China to dictate, since it is not embodied in the treaties, it can not be in violation of them. But if these dues are imposed upon foreign merchants for payment, then foreign merchants perhaps might sustain loss. At present, those who pay the dues are all Chinese merchants without concerning foreign merchants whatever.

21

whatever. Foreign goods imported by foreign merchants upon being sold to Chinese merchants become goods of the latter; till then dues are imposed which are paid for by money of Chinese merchants. it is not necessary that foreign merchants should be too inquisitively disposed. But if native products being conveyed to the treaty port, and before being sold to foreign merchants, are still the goods of Chinese merchants; dues are previously imposed which are paid for by money of Chinese merchants; what reason then have foreign merchants of being too inquisitively disposed.

This affair is not imposed upon foreign merchants to pay out any money, and, as foreign merchants are not in the least concerned therewith, what grievance can they have; indeed, foreign merchants do not in ~~the~~ any way suffer.

Moreover, these dues did not originate from the Viceroy, they have existed formerly. A few years ago, after the Franco-Chinese affair had been amicably settled, there was lack of means to meet the expenses of the Kiangtung Province; so the Provincial Department invoked the formerly Viceroy Chang to institute collection of dues for defraying ^{expenses for} "cruising and inspecting purposes; the measures and regulations adopted then were all alike those of the present, and, the amount of dues imposed was also identical with that of the present. At that time there was no plundering heard

heard of by pirates or outlaws in Kwantung Province, and, too, foreign merchants did not harbor any dissatisfaction, and even the Consuls of the different nations did not say anything about the affair; then why is it that levy can be imposed foreverly and not at present.

The Viceroy infers from the nature of the affair that as formerly merchants had the privilege of collecting those dues, but on account of the existing evils arising out of speculation and excessively heavy imposition, the Viceroy has placed it under official management, as means of attaining to a tangible method of compassionating Chinese merchants and of treating them equitably; but the greedy merchants being disappointed in the expectation for the privilege, have resorted to incite the foreign merchants with the purpose of hindering the general plan.

The Viceroy has transacted international affairs for twenty odd years, and has always been equitable and firm in purpose. Take this affair all in all, the levying of dues on Chinese merchants merely without levying on foreign merchants is a power which China can assume of her own accord, in full compliance with treaties and not affecting foreign merchants. In view of the innumerable friendly relations existing between China and the Western Powers, the Viceroy greatly hopes the Honorable Consul would notify the foreign merchants to carry on business as usual and not to be led astray by the wild rumors of greedy merchants. With compliments etc.

— July 31, 1890. —



Mr. Fauson

Consulate of the United States,

August 13th, 1890.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Consular Fees on Invoices of Mfg via Canada.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Shipments of Canton goods via Vancouver to the U.S.

Orlando

Consulate of the United States.

August 18th, 1890.

Honorable

Wm. J. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to state that recent competition between the Steam-
ship Companies for freight from Hong Kong
to New Orleans, and New York, and
other points, in the United States of America,
induces shippers to send Canton goods
via Vancouver, and per Canada Pacific
Steamers and Railways, from Hong Kong.

They to be interpreted as to the Com-
 fees on extra Copies of ^{invoices} Certified here, in
 support of triplicate sets of invoices.

If a merchant ships goods from
London and Hong Kong to San
Francisco, and requires four
notes (quadrate), one of which
may be required by the Canadian

27

Steam Ship Company, for use at the British Colonial Custom House where the goods are transferred, from the Hong Kong and Vancouver steamer, to the Vancouver and San Francisco steamer; will the fee be four dollars and fifty cents paid for the Triplie set and one Copy, or quadruplicate set? And if, instead of sending the goods via Vancouver and Canada Pacific Railroad to New York, the goods go from Canton and Hong Kong via Vancouver and San Francisco, over Central or Southern and Union Pacific Railroads to New York, and the shipper requires five Copies of invoices (or quadruplicate set), one of which may be attached to the draft on which the bank in Hong Kong has advanced the money that paid for the goods; and one of which is required by the Steamship Company for use at the Canadian Custom House at or near Vancouver; will the Comdn fee be four dollars and fifty cents paid?

3

In either of the cases stated, the extra copy of Certified Consular Invoice is for use in a foreign country; and if the sum of two dollars gold should be paid by the shipper therefor, is it to be regarded as an "Official" and "Treasury" fee, and so accounted for by the Consul; or will it be an "unofficial" fee, and belong to the Consul, as in the case of goods going through the United States to a foreign country.

It may seem strange that goods should thus go zig-zagging about, instead of taking a more direct route; but you may see, in the strife between competing Steamship and Railway Companies, that the carrying trade between Eastern Asia and North America (and perhaps Europe) is liable to assume strange features.

Freights will probably fluctuate, similar to the changes of passenger rates, which are now exceedingly low.

4/

The Canadian Steamship Company
admits for first class passengers
at one hundred dollars Mexican
from Hong Kong to Vancouver
or San Francisco; at two
hundred and eighty dollars Mexican
from Hong Kong to London with
choice of Atlantic Steamers, and
first class fare throughout.

The "Pacific Mail Steamship
Company" and the "Oriental and
Occidental Steamship Company,"
last month advertised first
class passenger fare from Hong
Kong to San Francisco or Vancouver
at \$112.50, and this month at \$120.00
Mexican; with corresponding rates to all
cities in the United States and to Europe.

This is not only war between
the San Francisco and Vancouver
lines for passengers and freight;
but it seriously affects the passenger
traffic of the old and well known steam
ship Companies between China
and Europe via Suez; whose passenger
rates have hitherto been very high.

Notwithstanding the freight from China to New York is much higher via San Francisco or Panama, than via Suez, to London or New York, the raw silk shipments to the United States will necessarily go by the route that shortens the time of water transportation, regardless of cost, to lessen the exposure of raw silk to moisture or dampness. Both of the rival lines carry raw silk from the Pacific Coast to the Atlantic Coast nearly as soon as the mail from San Francisco and Panama reach New York. And as the Canadian line inaugurated this rapid transit of raw silk across the American Continent in mail trains, the shippers do not feel inclined to regard that route with disfavor. Furthermore British merchants in China, as elsewhere, naturally desire to see the Canadian competition for the American trade carrying trade successful.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.



No. 205
Consulate of the United States,

Canton
September 30th 1890.

Mr. Seymour

To the **Department of State.**

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting quarterly account, vouchers
and returns.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 205 —

Consulate of the United States.

September 30th, 1890.

Honorable

Wm. P. Hunt

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Account, Vouchers, and Returns, required for the Quarter ended this day, from this Consulate, as per suggested list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Seymour
U. S. Consul.

List of inclosures viz

1. Digest of Invoice Book.
2. Record of Notarial Services.
3. Summary of Business.
4. Account Vouchers.



copy to Dept Ag.

Consulate of the United States,



Canton, November 15th, 1890.

*Copy to C. C. super
of Agr 3/2*

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

*Received
March 3, 1891*

SUBJECT:

*Report on, and sample of, Silk; sent to the Department
of Agriculture, in compliance with direction
of Department of State in Dispatch No. 1441.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Department of Agriculture,
OFFICE OF CHIEF CLERK,
Washington, D.C.

March 4. 1891.

Devallon A. Brown, Esq.
Chief Clerk,
Department of State.

Sir:

In reply to your enquiry of the 3^d instant, relative to silk worm eggs, &c. per despatch No. 206, from our Consul at Canton, I have the honor to state that there were duly received some time since, direct from Mr. Cunningham, and an acknowledgment of the same was promptly mailed to Mr. Seymour, U. S. Consul at Canton.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully yours,

S. S. Woodward,
Chief Clerk.

No. 206

Consulate of the United States.

November 15th 1890.

Honorable

Wm. D. Harton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that on the 11th instant, by the courtesy and kindness of Theodore B. F. Cunningham, Esquire, who went to the United States per "Alphina" from Hong Kong 13th inst, I was enabled to send, with apparent safety, a package of silk-worms' eggs, a full line of samples of raw-silk, and about 200 sample of silk-goods of Canton manufacture; with a report covering fifty three pages of carefully prepared and selected items of information, bearing upon the mulberry culture and silk-production in the principal silk-producing provinces of China. Vouchers for \$1.51, expended in silk-worms' eggs, will accompany my next monthly account to Department of State.

It was deemed unsafe to send the silk worms eggs during the warm months of summer, as it would be during the cold months of Winter; and in order to prevent premature hatching of eggs in transit by heat, and injury to the eggs by frost, Mr. Wm. C. Birmingham who has for nearly a quarter of a century, been Manager of Messrs Russell & Co's business at Canton, very kindly consented to personally attend to their transfer from this Consulate to the Department of Agriculture in Washington.

As Mr. C. Birmingham has had long and intimate acquaintance with Commerce between the United States and China, besides being a worthy and creditable representative of Massachusetts, his views upon the commercial interests of the two Countries are valuable; and if he visits Washington, I respectfully commend him to your favorable attention.

His address is - Care Messrs Russell & Co
No 66 Wall St. New York City.

I am, Sir, Yours Very Respectfully
Charles F. Townsend
U.S. Consul



late marriages

No. 207

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, Dec. 31st, 1890.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Account, Vouchers
and returns for quarter ended
Dec. 31st 1890.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 207

Consulate of the United States.

Dec. 31st, 1890

Honorable

Mr. D. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

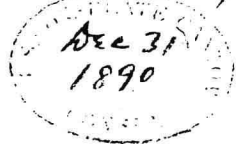
I have the honor to transmit herewith account, vouchers, and returns, required from this Consulate for the Quarter and year ending this day, as per subjoined list of inclosures.


I am, Sir, Very Obedient Servant,

Charles E. Johnson
U.S. Consul

List of inclosures viz:

1. Digest of Marine Book.
 2. Arrivals & Departures of the Vessels.
 3. Record of Notarial Service.
 4. Summary of Consular Business.
 5. Quarterly Account.
 6. Vouchers, undrawn.
 7. Names of persons employed.
 8. List of dispatches to Department.
 9. Report & Certificate of Mailing.
 10. Register of American residents.
- Total 10 inclosures.



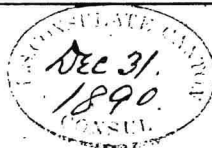
<i>Names of persons employed at the United States Consulate at Canton, China.</i>					
<i>Name.</i>	<i>Place.</i>	<i>Of what country a citizen or subject.</i>	<i>Rank.</i>	<i>Date of nomination.</i>	<i>Date of certificate.</i>
<i>Charles Seymour</i>	<i>Canton, China.</i>	<i>United States</i>	<i>Counsel</i>	<i>July 1882</i>	<i>Aug. 1882</i>
<i>Chun Yoy Woo</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>China</i>	<i>Interpreter</i>	<i>July 1888</i>	<i>Aug. 1888</i>
<i>Lee W Lin</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Chinese Writer</i>	<i>1881</i>	<i>1881</i>
<i>Leo Greich</i>	<i>Swatow, China</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>U.S. Consul Agent</i>	<i>1889</i>	<i>1889</i>
			<i>Charles Seymour</i>	<i>W. H. Wood</i>	



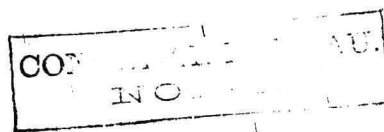
Report of Marriages, during 1890,
celebrated in the presence of the
U.S. Consul at Canton, China.

1890. October 14th at the American Baptist
(South) Mission in the City of Canton, China,
by Reverend Thomas W. Pearce, of the
London Mission in Canton, the Reverend
Rosewell H. Grady, D.D. Missionary, a
native of Baltimore, Maryland, aged
fifty-seven years, a resident of Canton, China;
and
Mrs Janie L Sanford, of Canton, China,
and native of Rienzi, Mississippi, of full age.

11.
1890. December 6th at the London Mission in
Canton, China, Ezra Solomon Joseph, aged
29 years, native of Bagdad, Turkey, resident
of Hong Kong, broker; and Miss Adeline Stacy,
of Hong Kong, native of San Francisco, ^{California}, aged 27
years; married by Reverend Thomas W. Pearce,
of the London Mission in Canton, China.



Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul



CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

CANTON, CHINA, *December 6th 1890.*

I *Charles Seymour* Consul of the United States
at *Canton, China* do hereby certify that on this *6th* day
of *December* A. D. 18*90* at *the London Mission* in the city of
Canton, China, *Ezra Solomon Joseph* aged *29* years, born
in *Bagdad, Turkey*
and now residing in *Hong Kong* and
Miss Adeline Gray aged *27* years, born in
San Francisco, California and now residing
in *Hong Kong* were united in marriage before me
and in my presence by *Rev. Thomas W. Pearce of the London Mission* who is
authorized by the laws of *Great Britain and the United States*
to perform Such a ceremony, In witness whereof I have hereto Subscribed my
name, and affixed the Seal of the consulate at *Canton, China*
this *6th* day of *December* A. D. 18*90* and of the Independence
of the United States the *One hundred and fifteenth*

Charles Seymour
United States Consul.



CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

CANTON, CHINA, *October 14.* 1890.

I *Charles Seymour* Consul of the United States
at *Canton, China* do hereby certify that on this *14th* day
of *October* A. D. 1890 at *the American Baptist Mission* in the city of
Canton, China, *Rev. Roswell H. Graves D.D.* aged *57* years, born
in *Baltimore, Maryland*
and now residing in *Canton, China*, ——— and
Mrs. Jennie L. Sanford ——— aged ——— years, born in
Rienzi, Mississippi ——— and now residing
in *Canton, China* were united in marriage before me
and in my presence by *Rev. Thomas H. Pearce of the London Mission* who is
authorized by the laws of *Great Britain and the United States*
to perform Such a ceremony, In witness whereof I have hereto Subscribed my
name, and affixed the Seal of the consulate at *Canton, China*
this *14th* day of *October* A. D. 1890 and of the Independence
of the United States the *one hundred and fifteenth*.

Charles Seymour
United States Consul.

Continued

Dec. 31, 1890. American Residents of Canton Consular District and vicinity, and claiming Canton as residence } and liable to claim protection of the Consulate }

Names	Occupation	From
The following reside at and near Swanton, continued.		
Rev. John James Norvell	Am. B. Union Missionary	California
Mrs. E. F. B. Norvell	Wife of Rev. J. S. Norvell	"
Mrs. A. K. Galt - 21. Q.	A. B. Ind. Missionary	Ohio
Mrs. Mary K. Galt	A. B. B. Missionary	"
Edward Galt	"	"
Mrs. Mary Annwidie	"	Wisconsin
Mrs. Elia Campbell	"	Illinois
George Allen Forsyth	"	Massachusetts
Isabel Burgess Forsyth	S. M. Customs, at Swanton	Massachusetts
Law Charles Worthington	"	California
William Samuel Roberts	"	Missouri
Total 105.		



Chas. Seymour
W. S. Paul

Oct 31, 1890. American Residents of Canton Consuls District San Francisco, and claiming Canton as residence, and leave to claim protection of this Consulate.

Names	Occupation	From	Names	Occupation	From
Rev. Frank P. Gilman	At Mission at Chung Chow	Canton	The following missionaries, usually employed at and about Canton, in connection with the American Presbyterian Mission are now visiting the United States:		
Mrs. Marion M. P. Gilman	Wife of Rev. F. P. Gilman		Mrs. Mary H. Miles M. D.	Medical missionary	New York
Florence P. Gilman	Daughter of "		Rev. Albert C. Fulton	Am. P. Missionary	Ohio
(Infant) Gilman	Infant of "		Mrs. Thomas H. Fulton	Wife of Rev. A. C. Fulton	Illinois
Henry M. McQuaid	At Mission at Chung Chow	Pennsylvania	Edith Fulton	Daughter of Rev. A. C. Fulton	
Mrs. Janet K. McQuaid	Wife of H. M. McQuaid	Canton	Theodore Snyder Fulton	Son of "	
William K. McQuaid	Son of "		Harold H. Fulton	Son of "	
Mrs. Lucia Patterson	Co. W. 13. Missionary	Savannah	Rev. William L. White	Am. P. Missionary	New York
Rev. J. H. Lingle	At P. Missionary	North Carolina	Lillian White	Daughter of Rev. W. L. White	
Mrs. M. H. Lingle	Wife of Rev. J. H. Lingle	Minnesota	Mary M. White	" "	
Rev. J. C. McElrose	Am. P. Missionary	Iowa	The following reside at and near Canton, viz:		
Mrs. J. C. McElrose	Wife of Rev. J. C. McElrose		Rev. William Johnson & Co.	Am. Baptist Missionary	Minnesota
Rev. Samuel H. Graves	Am. P. Missionary	Maryland	Mrs. Charlotte Johnson	Wife of Rev. W. L. Johnson	"
Mrs. Emily L. Graves	Wife of Rev. S. H. Graves	Mississippi	Rev. S. B. Partridge	Am. Baptist Missionary	"
Rev. Edward J. Graves	Am. P. Missionary		Mrs. M. B. Partridge	Wife of Rev. S. B. Partridge	"
Mrs. Maggie D. Graves	Wife of Rev. E. J. Graves	California	Rev. Wm. Johnson, Jr.	Am. Baptist Missionary	Minnesota
Mrs. Alice C. Hartwood	Am. Baptist Missionary	Connecticut	Mrs. Wm. Johnson	Wife of Rev. Wm. Johnson, Jr.	"
Mrs. Henrietta F. Hart	" "	Missouri	Rev. John M. Foster	Am. Baptist Missionary	Canada
Mrs. Nellie McMillan	" "	Illinois	Mrs. C. H. Foster	Wife of Rev. J. M. Foster	"
Mrs. John F. Melton	" "		Rev. George Campbell	Am. Baptist Missionary	Illinois
Rev. Thompson Melton	Swedish Ch. Missionary		Mrs. F. H. Campbell	Wife of Rev. George Campbell	"
The foregoing missionaries make Canton their center of operations.					
			Rev. F. H. Carlson	Am. Baptist Missionary	Minnesota
			Mrs. F. H. Carlson	Wife of Rev. F. H. Carlson	"

Dec 31, 1890. American Residents of Canton Consular District and vicinity, and claiming Canton as residence, and liable to claim protection of the Consulate.

Names.	Occupation.	From	Names.	Occupation.	From
Charles Seymour	U.S. Consul	Massachusetts	Benjamin C. Henry, D.D.	Am. P. Missionary	Pennsylvania
Mr. Charles Seymour	Wife of Charles Seymour	"	Mr. Mary S. Henry	Wife of Mr. B. C. Henry	"
Andrew P. Hopper, D.D.	Pres of Christian Church	Pennsylvania	Julia V. A. Henry	Daughter of Mr. B. C. Henry	Canton
Theodore Cunningham	Manager for Russell & Co	Massachusetts	Kellen A. Henry	Son of " " "	"
Little Cunningham	Daughter of C. B. Cunningham	Massachusetts	James M. Henry	" " " "	"
Christian Pitt Read	Asst. manager for Russell & Co	Massachusetts	Richard M. Henry	" " " "	"
Francis C. Hooker	Emr. S. M. Customs at Canton	New Jersey	John M. Swan, M.D.	Asst. Sec. of Min. Affairs	Ohio
Francis A. Carl	" " " " at Hong Kong	at Hong Kong	Mrs. J. M. Swan	Wife of Mr. J. M. Swan	"
Andrew P. Hopper, Jr.	" " " " at Hong Kong	Canton	James H. Swan	Asst. Sec. of Min. Affairs	Canton
H. C. Sherman	S. M. Customs at Hong Kong	Boston, Mass	Joseph C. Thomson, M.D.	Asst. Sec. of Min. Affairs	Ohio
C. L. Huchins	" " " "	Massachusetts	Mrs. J. C. Thomson	Wife of Mr. J. C. Thomson	New York
A. Thompson	" " " "	Massachusetts	George D. Thomson	Son of Mr. J. C. Thomson	"
H. Crocker	" " " "	San Diego, Cal	John P. Thomson	Son of Mr. J. C. Thomson	"
J. Stephenson	" " " "	"	Joseph C. Thomson	Son of Mr. J. C. Thomson	"
Mr. Mackenzie	" " " "	"	Herbert Thomson	" " " "	"
George B. Lefavour	Captain U.S. Army	Massachusetts	Rev. Oscar F. Hines	Am. P. Missionary	Ohio
Charles Holmes	" " " "	Massachusetts	Mrs. John Hines	Wife of Mr. O. F. Hines	Oregon
C. C. Blakely	" " " "	"	Mrs. John Hines	Wife of Mr. O. F. Hines	Pennsylvania
John G. Kerr, M.D.	Am. P. Missionary	Ohio	Mrs. John Hines	Wife of Mr. O. F. Hines	Ohio
Mrs. Martha Joyce Kerr	" " " "	"	Edward C. Mackle, Jr.	Asst. Sec. of Min. Affairs	"
Rev. Henry V. Hayes	" " " "	"	Mrs. E. C. Mackle	Wife of Mr. E. C. Mackle	Pennsylvania
Mr. H. T. Hayes	" " " "	"	Elise Mackle	Daughter of " "	Ohio
Mrs. Harriet Hayes	" " " "	"	Mrs. Harriet Lewis	Wife of Mr. H. T. Hayes	Ohio
William D. Hayes	" " " "	"	Rev. Charles A. Colman	Am. P. Missionary	California
Richard A. Hayes	" " " "	"			



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, January 5th, 1891.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Supplementary Account

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 208

Consulate of the United States.

January 5th, 1891.

Honorable

Mr. G. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith supplementary account, to correct error in computing rent, by crediting the Department of State \$21.14; which reduces my draft No. 126, dated December 31, 1890, from \$318.75 to \$297.61. The error occurred in computing rent @ $2\frac{3}{4}\%$ per Mexican dollar, which misled me into \$21.14 excess of allowance for rent.

I am, Sir,
Very Respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

Enclosures viz
Supplementary to draft.

Charles Seymour
M. S. Journal.



No. 209

Consulate of the United States,

Consular Bureau
Interior Dept

March 9/91

sent 11/91
W. H. W.

Canton,
January 28th, 1891.



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Application of J. H. Cheney for a Pension.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

With the inclosure showing
service for which a pension
is asked.

No. 209

Consulate of the United States.

January 28th, 1891.

Honorable

Sam. J. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith the application of Jesse
Hedden Cherry, a well-known and
respectable citizen of the United States,
for a pension; and he desires the
Department of State to deliver his
application to the Commissioner of
Pensions, or Secretary of the Interior; and
requests that proper blanks, with
information and instructions adapted
to his case, may be sent to Mr
Cherry, in care of this Consulate.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

Acting Consul.

one inclosure



No. 210

Consulate of the United States, Canton,

March 31st, 1891.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Account, Vouchers, & Returns.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Two inclosures

No. 210

Consulate of the United States.

March 31st, 1891.

Honorable

Wm. F. Houston

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith
Account, Vouchers and returns, required
for the Quarter ending this day, from the
Consulate, as per subjoined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

- List of inclosures viz:
1. Miscellaneous Expense & Vouchers
 2. Digest of Income Book.
 3. Arrivals, Departures, etc. Vitals.
 4. Record of Notarial Services
 5. Summary of Port Business



No business reported from
Swatow Agency. C.S.



file

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 30th, 1891.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Account with Vouchers, and
Returns, for Quarter, and Fiscal Year,
ended June 30th 1891.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 211

Consulate of the United States.

June 30th, 1891.

Honorable

Wm. F. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith
Account, vouchers, and returns, of this
Consulate, for the quarter and fiscal year
ended this day, as per subjoined list of
inclosures.

Yours, Sir,

Don Odriant Servant
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

List of inclosures

1. Miscellaneous Expense Account.
2. Digest of Invoice Book.
3. Declared Exports.
4. Record of Material Services.
5. Aggregate return of Fees.
6. Summary of Consular Business.



Hydrographic Office

212

Consulate of the United States, *Canton*,
July 16th, 1891.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

*Received
Sept 21 1891*

SUBJECT:

"Rhenish Passage" open to navigation.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 212.

Consulate of the United States.

July 16th, 1891.

Honorable

Wm. F. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that on Monday 6th instant the "Blenheim Passage", (commonly called "Back Reach"), which is the Southern Channel between Canton and the Sea, was opened to navigation by the Chinese Authorities; and is now being used by the ships engaged in the Coast trade between Shanghai and Canton, and other ports between this port and Hong Kong. "Blenheim Passage" was closed in 1884, when the trouble commenced between France and China, which ended in 1885. The avowed object of obstructing this deep-channel was to prevent large war ships of France reaching Canton. As numerous piles and hundreds of junk-loads of stone were added to the obstructions in 1884.

the interests of inter-national commerce were violated.
 The South Channel is not quite as good as it was before the obstructions of stone and piles were placed in it; but it now enables much drawing sixteen feet of water in the "dry season", and from seventeen to eighteen feet in high water, and seventeen feet during ten months of the year at high tide, to come and go. The dry season is in winter (between middle of December and the middle of February, usually, immediately preceding the rainy season, which sometimes begins in February although usually about the first of March). The restoration of this deep channel to navigation is a great benefit to commerce as the North Channel, which alone has been available for the past seven years, has only about eleven to twelve feet at high tide, and only about six feet at low tide.

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant

Charles Seymour
 M. Consul.

No. 213



Consular Bureau
Ack. file
WPH

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, July 16th, 1899.

[Signature]

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Condition of Affairs at Canton and Southern
China*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 213.

Consulate of the United States.

July 16th 1891.

Honorable *Mr. P. Wharton*
Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you
in regard to the condition of affairs at Canton
and in Southern China.

The turmoil in Central China
during the past few months seems to
have produced considerable disquietude in
Canton and the populous district in this vicinity;
as apart from the publicity given to current
events through English and Chinese newspapers,
and by crowds of passengers passing to and
fro, mischievous and disloyal emissaries
from other provinces have introduced into Canton
and the surrounding country, during the past
three or four weeks, many placards of a vile, disturbing,
and inflammatory nature, and evidently of Yangtze

Valley production, and some of them intensely blasphemous and vulgar, and all calculated to incite the populace to outrages against Christianity, its teachers, preachers, and followers.

They made their appearance placarded within the older portion of the City of Canton on or about 20th ultimo, and on the following two days, but since that time only a few threatening placards have appeared, and at the present time Canton seems to be very quiet.

The Authorities have been very diligent in suppressing the placards, and posting official Proclamations enjoining observance of order and tranquility, and threatening mischief-makers.

The Imperial Edict, issued about 1st June enjoining vigilance on the part of all in Authority, and threatening degradation if they permitted disturbances in their respective Provinces and Districts, made it easy for Generals to get the Authorities to attend promptly to intimations of trouble brewing in any localities which required special attention to avert mischief or outrages.

His Excellency, the Viceroy, "Li Han Chang",
(an elder brother of the eminent "Li Hung
Chang" of Pientin) very kindly asked the
Consuls to have the foreign missionaries
observe more than usual care in their
various fields of labor to avoid opportunities
for conflict with natives, and where
unusual excitement prevails, to omit
temporary gatherings or services, which
might invite attacks; as you will see by
Copy of his note, as per appended Trans-
lation marked $\frac{1}{A}$; and Consuls
promptly reminded the Authorities
of the utmost vigilance on the
part of Chinese Officials to squelch
the plans of mischief-makers before
they culminated in trouble, to large
to be easily controlled by the Authorities,
as was the case in other Provinces.

A copy of my semi-official
letter of June 24th 1894 to
H.C. the Viceroy is hereto appended
and marked $\frac{2}{B}$; and the Viceroy had
a Chinese translation of it sent
to his Magistrates throughout the Province.

While these matters are occupying much attention everywhere, Consuls have met at this Consulate as often as twice or three a week, and all communicate to one another whatever is worthy of consideration; and recently we have secured the attendance of the leading representatives of the various missionary organizations, including the American Presbyterian Mission, the American Baptist Mission, the London Mission, the English Methodist Mission, and the Berlin Mission, and communicated with the American Congregational (A.B.C.F.M.) Mission, and have also had with us the President of the Chamber of Commerce, the Captain of a foreign Defense gun, and the Commandant of a British Gun boat which has been a few days in port; and thus we aim to know what is going on, and try to prevent serious mischief by having it attended to promptly.

Commencing on Sunday 12th instant, disturbances occurred at several villages about fifteen miles west of Canton, and extended to another village on Monday morning.

These disturbances seemed to be caused by gangs bent on pillage and loot; but the victims were mostly native Christians. At one of these villages the contents of a small Roman Catholic chapel were looted or carried off; and at another village the house in which native Christians assembled, (in connection with the English Methodist Mission) was destroyed.

Since writing above I sent to the French Consul for particulars; and he replies "I saw yesterday the Chinese priest (Ab.) in charge of the District. He was saved by the Chinese soldiers, and came back with them. About fifteen villages have been plundered. All Churches pulled down. No news today."

These outrages occurred in the exceedingly populous district long known as "the 96 villages", although there probably were 200 villages,

6/

With an aggregate population of whom one and two millions.

The Canton Authorities sent out soldiers Monday morning to one of the villages named "Tai Luk"; Captured ten participants in the outrages, and executed the ring-leaders on the spot in the presence of the villagers, and brought the ten evil-doers to prison in Canton. The Authorities dread to come into conflict with forces which can be supported by unnumbered thousands of sympathetic friends, when the soldiers are reluctant to do any injury to their own kindred and friends. The Mandarins themselves dare not trust the Canton soldiers; but rely upon Tartar soldiers from Northern China.

The chief security China has against a formidable rebellion throughout Southern and Central China is in the differences of the various local dialects, which is an obstacle to combination of disloyal and turbulent elements.

57

Now, we have to report a quiet City, where the Authoritarian, by proclamation and threat, squelched, temporarily, at least, placards and agitation; and the Protestant missionaries report peaceful indication in the country; while within thirty miles of Canton, since Sunday noon, nearly a score of villages have been plundered and pillaged, many native Christians have lost their property, Roman Catholic Chapels have been looted and demolished.

One fact of significance should be mentioned.

Nearly all of the placards threatening evil to Christians and foreigners designated September as the month in which threats are to be carried into effect at Canton; where twenty to twenty five thousands from all parts of Kiangtung and Kwangsi Provinces will assemble in latter part

8

of August 1891 and remain here to the end of September, during the tri-ennial examinations and contests for literary degrees.

During the last ten or thereabouts U.S.S. "Foggy" has been at Canton; but she must leave soon, to go into dock for repairs, preparing to her voyage to and service on the West Coast of Africa.

These little European gun-boats can land only about 25 to 30 men, or only a third or fourth of the number landed by the "Monrovia", "Lurline", "Esmer", "Albatross", and some other U.S. Men-of-War.

I know not for gun-boats or "Men-of-War" at Canton, as they are all needed usually in Japan, and the average European Squadron or America Squadron prefers to hover around Japan. Yokohama presents greater attraction than any Chinese port for sailors. I remember the the Franco-Chinese trouble, when

29

out, and when all of the Chinese ports were in turmoil and anxiety, the plucky little U.S.S. "Palos" was almost alone standing guard over a thousand miles of Chinese Coast, while all of the squadrons were guarding Yokohama.

Certainly, just now, the Jungtze Valley is receiving merited attention from the naval forces; but after the strain is over, it would be a pity to send them South until the cool mother of Winter months might, in some degree, compensate them for missing this Autumn in Japan.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
Charles Seymour
McDonnell

translation of a semi-official note from the Viceroy of the Two Kiang to the U.S. Consul at Canton, dated June 2nd 91.

The writer has the honor to state, that, of late, along the course of Yangtze River, extending from Kueichow down to Kiangsu, vagabonds at times, have enticed and drawn native villains into plots of causing trouble against mission chapels and of destroying them by fire. The minds of the Cantonese people being perturbed & unsettled, it is feared that such vagabonds abound in number. However, District Magistrates have been enjoined to issue proclamations, and also, to secretly dispatch worthy officers undivulging as to their intentions or looks, to stringent search for and seize them for punishment. But the chapels and missionaries of the various nationalities during these few days should also be extraordinary circumspect and careful. In matters like keeping faithfully asylums for children, & holding religious services in chapels, there should be temporary suspensions, until the minds of the people get quieter and wanton rumors shall have subsided in a degree before the customary routine should be resumed. As there is a marked difference in the state of affairs between China and the Western Countries, it is deeply feared that the unsettled minds of the people might lead to circulation of wanton rumors, where-on

villainous and roaming ruffians will avail themselves of any opportunity to create disorder; and whenever calamities are wrought about, losses will be sustained by all irrespective of nationalities. It will be deemed as disadvantageous to the extreme. It is the motive of the Viceroy to afford protection to the different chapels, and, it is not that he wishes to impede the different missionaries in their works of preaching. If there are any chapels of your honored country located in or out of the City of Canton, it is hoped notices will be given out by express messengers.

With compliments & care,

Consul to Viceroy.

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, China, June 24, 1891.

To His Excellency Li,

Sir:

Viceroy of the Two Kuan.

The American Consul avails himself of the earliest opportunity to acknowledge having received on the evening of Monday 22nd instant (16th day 5th moon) a semi-official note from Your Excellency, which has been made known to representatives of the various foreign missionary societies in Canton and vicinity, to whom, as well as to the American Consul, Your Excellency's note comes as friendly admonition, and timely advice, and judicious counsel, from one who is invested with great responsibilities and high authority, worthy of much respect and consideration. The American Consul recognizes in Your Excellency's note an admirable purpose to preserve public order and tranquility, which is menaced by native evil-doers. The missionaries will be very careful to offer no just provocation, or cause any turmoil or excitement.

Your Excellency should be reminded that the Consuls and missionaries have positive and undoubted evidences of the fact that mischievous, vile and inflammatory placards have been exposed in public thoroughfares in numerous

parts of the City of Canton during the past few days. On Saturday last, near the south gate, one placard was found with a picture of a swine on a cross, under which was vile, blasphemous, and false statements, to incite natives to outrages against Christians. At many places yesterday, and one or two days ^{before} yesterday, were posted on the ~~walls~~ other scurrilous, obscene, and mischievous placards, all of which seemed to have been sent to Canton from Central and Northern China, where similar placards had produced deplorable outrages, because of the indifference & negligence of the local authorities, who failed to stop the mischief when it might have been squelched and controlled by those in authority.

One of those placards announces that on a certain day the flesh of Jesus will be sold on the market for eight cash ^(= 8/1000) per catty ^(= 1 1/4 lb). The other placard begins by saying Jesus is the product of a boar and a sow, and continues with a mass of vile stuff about Christians at their weekly meetings on Sunday mutilating children by digging their eyes out, and castrating young boys, cutting out the breasts of women, extracting their eyes, and wombs, and broiling them with infants. This is the same kind of placards which have produced horrible outrages in

other parts of China.

It is indeed lamentable to think that such false and vulgar statements can influence any populace to outrages; but when such things are going on in Canton; and such placards ^{have} been found, even in the Tartar portion of the city, and in various thoroughfares, the Consuls feel justified in reminding Your Excellency that when these villainous proceedings are going on without any one being detected or punished for such acts, foreigners through their Consuls, wish Your Excellency to be assured that the responsibility as to results rests on Your Excellency, and call for extraordinary care and attention at the hands of the Chinese authorities.

Last night an unsuccessful attempt was made to burn the American Presbyterian Mission on Fati, by applying a paper torch tied to bamboos about two feet long, saturated in kerosene, with matches at one end of the torch, which failed to ignite although one end of the torch was burned. This is the second attempt to burn that property; certain persons are suspected. The torch is now at this Consulate and has been seen by all the Consuls. It was intended to be destructive.

As a precautionary measure, besides other inspection, would Your Excellency cause a

Chinese junk-boat to lay off Shanghai for a few days as a place of refuge & safety? Inclosing copies of two of the offensive placards mentioned, the American Consul with renewed assurances of highest esteem, sends compliments and care.

Your Excellency's obedient servant.
(signed), Charles Seymour.
U.S. Consul



No. 214



Consul at Beu
Treasury Bell
Ack file
WFL
Oct 14/91

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, August 17th 1891.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

Treas
Ack

Oct 16/91

Got Recd
Oct 19 1891

SUBJECT:

Reduction of "le Kin" tax on Kerosene at Canton,
from forty to twenty cents per case.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Increased traffic to supply interior markets.
Increased consumption to follow reduced "le Kin".
An important item of American Commerce
finding large markets in Southern China.

No. 214.

Consulate of the United States.

Canton August 17th 1891

Honorable, *Wm. D. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that during the present Summer American Kerosene has been imported into Canton in foreign steamships, and sent to the interior under the "transit pass" system, upon payment of the duty and additional half-duty (as provided for by treaty between China and several Foreign Powers) in unusually large quantities - averaging about one hundred thousand boxes per month, or about five thousand cases (\$10.000 cases) per day. Formerly the bulk of Kerosene came per native junk, on which

2/

the national tax or levy generally known as "lekin", amounting to forty cents per case (= 20 ^{cts} per ton) was collected. During the time that H. L. the Viceroy, Chang Chih-tung, (now near Hankow in the valley of the Yangtze), traffic by foreigners, return Canton and the interior under the "transit-pass" system, was extinguished and prevented by seizures, detentions, and annoyances caused by "lekin" officials.

During the time that W. L. "Li Han-chang" has been at Canton as Viceroy of Kiangtung and Kiangsi Provinces, the lekin restrictions have gradually diminished, until this summer the "transit-pass" trade has assumed encouraging proportions, and Kerosene has led the way.

Finding the old term "lekin" was becoming unpopular or obnoxious, last year the Chinese authorities adopted a new term. "Tsy pow King fi" in Cantonese dialect, or "Shing fi" in Pekingese-Mandarin, and in English a "Port Contribution" levy, instead of a "Coast Defense Contribution" as temporarily designated.

By reference to my No. 202, dated July 25, 1890, giving the Department of State full particulars of the mistake offered by the Government at Canton against increase of the "Lekin" tax on being upon foreign productions, you will find that it was accompanied by a copy of my dispatch to His Excellency the Viceroy (L^{te} Hsu Cheng) dated July 23, 1890.

Heroina was almost the only commodity of considerable importation on which no increase of "Lekin" was made in 1890; when there was general increase on foreign productions.

On Saturday 15th instant the Chinese Authorities at Canton reduced the "Lekin" or "Foot Contribution" levy upon Heroina from forty cents per case to twenty cents per case (= ten cents per tin), which will be collected on all Heroina for Canton market and consumption.

4/

This will doubtless have tendency to increase the consumption of American Petroleum at and about Canton; while it will not be likely to seriously diminish the supply of interior markets now being made under the "transit passport".

Believing this sort of reduction of the "Cotton" or "Salt" contribution levy upon Petroleum will have a beneficial influence upon imports of an important item of American Commerce into Southern China,

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant

Charles Leonard
H. B. Church

RECEIVED
No. 215

Consulate of the United States,

September 30th, 1891.

file
Carston
Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Account, Teachers, and Returns
for Quarter ending Sept 30th 1891.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 215-

Consulate of the United States.

September 30th, 1891.

Honorable

Wm. D. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Account, vouchers, and returns from this Consulate for quarter ending this day. I regret exceedingly to inform you that Mr. Lee U' Lin, the excellent Chinese Writer who has been in the service of this Consulate for the past ten years, died at the end of July 1891. We are trying to get along with an educated relative of the deceased Writer as his successor; but fear this will be only a temporary arrangement.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Inclucudes

1. Accounts & Vouchers
2. Digest of Chinese Book.
3. Record of Notarial Services
4. Summary of C. B.

Charles Seymour
U. S. Consul

Consulate of the United States,
December 3rd, 1891.

RECEIVED

Consulate Bu
ack. file.
W. P. W.
file

No. 216

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Condition of affairs at and about Canton.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Four inclosures under clasp—being
Copies of placard and correspondence
in relation to the same.

No. 216

Consulate of the United States.

December 3rd, 1891.

Honorable

Wm. F. Wheaton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that since my dispatch No. 213, dated July 16th 1891, upon the condition of affairs at Canton and vicinity, matters have continued tolerably quiet. The vigorous attempts of mischief-makers to stir up the populace to outrages and turbulence, by inflammatory placards, in June last, at and about Canton, were defeated by the promptness and vigilance of the Chinese authorities, in accordance with the timely suggestions of the foreign Consuls, and Imperial mandates; and the outrages of 12th and 13th July last, when fourteen villages west of Canton were pillaged by gangs of native ruffians,

9/

terminated by the Authorities beheading three of the ten most vicious ruffians, who were engaged in the raid upon the pillaged villages and brought to Canton by the Viceroys' soldiers.

The victims of the pillage were native Christians, in connection with the French Roman Catholic Mission, several of whose Chapels were destroyed.

On or about Sunday, 22nd November last another attempt was made to fill the City of Canton with inflammatory placards; a copy of which in Chinese accompanies the inclosed translation of the same - marked $\frac{1}{A} + \frac{1}{B}$, respectively.

A.B. The Consuls sent copies of the placards to His Excellency the Viceroy, "Li Han Cheng".

C/ A copy of my dispatch to him is inclosed - marked $\frac{2}{C}$; and a translation of his reply is also inclosed.

D/ marked $\frac{3}{D}$. Similar replies came to other Consuls.

No further trouble from that matter is anticipated; although it is very evident from the Viceroy's reply, the Authorities do not wish to rouse the mischievous elements to turbulence or activity,

93

During the present year, which has been an eventful one, as to manifestations of a turbulent spirit in a large portion of Central China, which has extended southward, there have been several cases of severe persecution in the Province of Kiangtung against native Christians; who have, upon various pretexts, been imprisoned for no crime or misdemeanor.

These facts having been brought to my notice by missionaries in the service of the American Presbyterian and Congregational Missions, it has given me great pleasure to obtain the release of all such native Christians as had been wrongfully imprisoned and in irons; upon representations to the High Authorities, who instructed the local Magistrates in the interior to release such prisoners if innocent.

In acknowledgment of their and other services rendered by their Consulate, Rev. D. B. Henry, of the American Presbyterian Mission in Southern China, writes - ^{Aug 24/91} "We are greatly indebted to

4

for all you have done officially during the past few months of uncertainty and prospective trouble"; and Rev John R. Taylor, of the American Congregational Mission (A.B.C.F.M.) expressed the thanks of that Mission, and of the Congregational Church of Rev D. Bond in San Francisco, of which an imprisoned Chinaman was a member, for his release; and the Rev D. F. F. Ellinwood, of New York, as Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. under date of October 8.th 1891, wrote to this Consulate that having learned from their missionaries in China what had transpired - "I wish to assure you of our great appreciation of such services. On behalf of our Board and the Mission I wish to thank you for the new picture of your appreciation and successful efforts to secure our rights."

I have not troubled the Department with detail, in regard to the numerous occurrences of troubles averted; but the organization maintained by the Consular Body at Canton for ascertaining what is going on in the and surrounding Country; and for obtaining prompt and effective

5

attention to emergencies, that are of frequent occurrence among the turbulent elements of Canton and Southern China; promulgated through the native or foreign press along the coast of many events, which, if allowed to develop before action of a remedial or restraining nature on the part of Chinese authorities was invoked by foreign consuls, would ^{have} assumed a formidable and serious character.

It is very certain that Chinese officials, if left to themselves, will not arrest the progress of nations in outrages against foreigners and Christians; unless such outrages are likely to involve the ^{said} officials in loss of revenue or position; but if held up strictly to treaty observance by a firm and vigilant course on the part of foreign consuls, many evils are averted. In the interior the local Magistrates are generally influenced by the "Secretaries" or

6
 or literary men, who have access, by correspondence and memorials, to the more powerful rulers of the Province or Empire; but when the high officials at the seat of Provincial Government, or at the Capital of the Empire, are made to feel that the foreign Legations and Consulates are determined to insist upon treaty observance; then the local Magistrates in the Country have to disregard the anti-foreign policy of the "Country", and obey the mandates of Superiors in official power or authority.

It is gratifying to approach the end of a year that has been full of perplexity in China, and find that Southern China has escaped so much of threatened evil.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

W. H. Consul

一

目 童 華 謀 同 民 教 鬼 番

賣蘇街內天主堂

番鬼教民勾結黨

將我清朝華孩子

取了雙目造藥材

由始至今千數萬

石獅聞見也淚流

伏思我清朝強大

可能袖手與旁觀

四方兄弟全孩報

先殺番鬼與教民

後將教堂來焚毀

絕其根株除大害

清朝華童得安然

萬望眾人扶持哉

1
B

Translation of a Chinese Plea.
Foreign-devils and native Christians together plot
for the eyes of Chinese youths.

There is a Roman Catholic Chapel at "Mai-Mai" Street, where foreign-devils & native Christians are united in society, for the purpose of extracting the two eye-balls of our Chinese youths to prepare their medicines. From the beginning to the present, there has been myriad of cases; - even figures of stone-lions hearing of it would shed tears.

Judging from the strength and vastness of our "Ta-ching" Dynasty, can she with unruffled sleeves stand by as a looker-on? Brothers of the four directions! Let us together take revenge for our youths, by first killing the foreign-devils and native converts; and, then, burn & demolish their chapels - exterminating them to their roots, so as to be freed from a great calamity.

The youths of our "Ta-ching" Dynasty will be safe; it is ten thousand times hoped that the public will give its support.

2

C



To His Excellency "Li" November 25th 1891.
Viceroy of the Two Kwangs.

Sir:

The American Consul respectfully incloses copy of numerous bad placards that have been posted in various parts of the City of Canton; some of which were found in the proximity of Your Excellency's Yamen two or three days ago.

It seems strange and almost unaccountable that such villainous threats against foreigners, Christians, and their churches, should be permitted; and almost under the shadow of Your Excellency's Yamen.

These mischievous and inflammatory placards would undoubtedly cease if it were known by the populace that those who perpetrate such iniquity would surely be punished; but when it is known that such acts can be done with impunity; and that no one who posts these placards has ever been punished, the evil will continue while vicious men exist.

With renewed assurances of highest esteem, the American Consul sends compliments and cord.

Your Excellency's obedient servant,
(signed) Charles Chapman
U.S. Consul.

$$\frac{3}{5}$$

$$\frac{3}{D}$$

Translation of a semi-official note from H.C.
the Viceroy of the Tsookwang to the U.S. Consul.

I, the Viceroy, have the honor to acknowledge having received the Honorable Consul's representation and also an anonymous placard.

I have immediately given orders to the different civil + military ^{officials} to strictly seize and to be on the alert for those ruffians coming reports to incite turmoil who ought to be dealt with coolly and deliberately and be stringently and secretly guarded against. Should the affair cause the least sudden fright, we would fall victims to their stratagem.

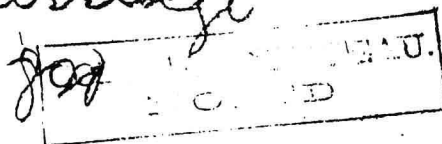
The Honorable Consul can rest at ease to the full extent; but it is very important that the different missionaries and their converts should be extraordinarily careful and circumspect etc.

With compliments & card.

November 30. 1891.



No. 217



State marriage

Consulate of the United States, *Canton*
December 4th 1891.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Certificate of Marriage between
Messrs Andrew Prattie and Miss Ellen E. Hartwell.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

One inclosure.

CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

CANTON, CHINA, *November 9th* 18*91*.

I *Charles Seymour* Consul of the United States
 at *Canton, China*, do hereby certify that on this *9th* day
 of *November* A. D. 18*91* at *the British Consulate General and American Baptist Mission* in the city of
Canton, China, *Rev. Andrew Beattie* aged *34* years, born
 in *Ontario, Dominion of Canada*,
 and now residing in *Canton, China*, and
Miss Ellen Edwards Hartwell aged *28* years, born in
China (daughter of Rev. Sam. B. Hartwell of H.K.) and now residing
 in *Canton, China* were united in marriage before me
 and in my presence by *British Consul General F. Watten and*
by Rev. Oscar F. Wisner who is and
 authorized by the laws of *Great Britain and the United States*,
 to perform Such a ceremony, In witness whereof I have hereto Subscribed my
 name, and affixed the Seal of the consulate at *Canton, China*
 this *9th* day of *November* A. D. 18*91* and of the Independence
 of the United States the *one hundred and fiftieth*

Charles Seymour
 CONSUL
 United States Consul.

No. 217

Consulate of the United States.

December 4th, 1891

Honorable *Wm. D. Houston*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith Certificate of Marriage Return
between Andrew Seattie, a British Subject,
and Miss Ellen Edwards Hartwell,
daughter of Revuead Jesse B. Hartwell,
a citizen of the United States of America;
which occurred at Canton, China,
November 9th 1891.

I am, Sir,
Dear Madam, Sir,

Charles Seymour
Notar Public.

One inclosure.

file



No. 218

Consulate of the United States, Canton,
December 31st, 1891.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Account, Vouchers, and Returns.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Nine inclosures as per list

No. 218

Consulate of the United States.

December 31st, 1891.

Honorable

Wm. D. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith Account, vouchers, and returns, required for the Quarter and Year ending this day, for this Consulate, as per subjoined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

List of inclosures

1. Account & Vouchers.
2. Digest of Invoice Book.
3. Arrival & Departure Am. Vessels.
4. Record of Notarial Services.
5. Return of Marriages.
6. Names of Am.ⁿ Residents.
7. Names of Employed.
8. List of dispatches.
9. Summary of Business.

Return of Marriages of American Citizens in Canton, China during 1891.

Marriages solemnized at the British Consulate-General in Canton and at the American Baptist Mission in Canton, China.									
No.	When married	Name and surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of marriage	Place of birth	Father's name and surname	Rank or Profession of Father
	November 9 th 1891.	Rev. Andrew Beattie and Miss Ellen S. Hartwell	34	Bachelor	Missionary	Canton, China	Ontario, Canada	William Beattie	Farmer in Canada
			28	Spinster	Missionary	Canton, China	China	Jesse B. Hartwell	Orthograpian (writing) J. C. residing in California

Married in the British Consulate-General and American Baptist Mission according to the Rites and ceremonies of Great Britain & United States by British Consul General J. Hatters and by me, (signed) Oscar Francis Hatters.

This marriage was solemnized between us, (signed) Andrew Beattie in the presence of us, (signed) Ellen S. Hartwell

(signed) Mary H. Miles
(signed) R. H. Wells
(signed) J. M. Swan
(signed) B. C. Henry

Dec 31 1891
Charles Seymour
W. H. Hatters

American Residents of Canton Consular District.
December 31, 1891.

Names	From what State or Place
Theodore Bliss Cunningham, & daughter } Lillie Cunningham	Massachusetts
Andrew P. Hopper Jr.	Canton
George B. Lefavour	Massachusetts
Charles Holmes	Maine
G. C. Blethen	"
Charles Seymour and wife	Wisconsin
John G. Kerr, M. D. and wife	Ohio
Rev. Henry V. Ayles and wife + 2 sons Wm D. & Rich. A. Ayles	"
Rev. Ben. C. Henry & wife Helen A. Henry	Pennsylvania Canton
James M. Henry	"
John M. Swan, M. D. and wife } James H. Swan	Ohio Canton
Joseph C. Thomson M. D. & wife } George D. Thomson Avis P. Thomson Joseph O. Thomson Herbert Thomson	Ohio
Rev. Oscar F. Wisner, wife & daughter	Oregon
Miss Harriet Lewis	Ohio
Edward C. Machle ^{M. D.} and wife } Elsie Machle	Pennsylvania
Miss Hannah Louise Johnston	Ohio

Rev. Charles A. Colman	California
Rev. Frank P. Gilman + wife	New York
Flora P. Gilman + infant Gilman	
Henry M. McCaulley M. G. + wife	Pennsylvania
Wm K. McCaulley	
Miss Austria Patterson	Java
Rev. Wm Hill Lingle + wife	North Carolina
Rev. Hans Jensen von Qualen	Illinois
Rev. J. C. Melrose + wife	Java
Rev. Dr. Roswell A. Graves + wife	Maryland
Rev. Ezekiel B. Simmons + wife	Mississippi
Miss Henrietta F. North	Connecticut
Miss Mallie M. Minn	Missouri
Miss Lulu F. Wheldon	South Carolina
Miss Mary W. Miles M. G.	New York
Rev. Albert A. Fulton + wife	Ohio
Edith Fulton	
Theodore Cuyler Fulton	
Harold M. Fulton	
Rev. George M. Greene + wife	North Carolina
Anna McDover Greene	"
Pansy Flora Greene	"
Felie Bailey Greene	"
Joseph Langley	Virginia
H. A. Wieser wife + son	
Charles Cecil Clarke	Massachusetts
H. E. Sherman	

3

Names	From what State or place
A. Thompson	
J. Stephenson	
W. P. Tash	
L. Edwards	
The following reside at & near Swanton	
Rev. Dr. J. M. Ashmore & wife	Massachusetts
Rev. S. B. Partridge & wife	"
Rev. J. M. Ashmore Jr. & wife (Son)	Minnesota
Rev. John M. Foster & wife	Maine
Rev. George Campbell & wife	Illinois
Rev. F. H. Carlin	Kentucky
Mrs. M. K. Scott M. D.	Ohio
Miss Mary K. Scott	"
Miss Mary Dimwiddie	Wisconsin
Edward Scott	Ohio
Miss Elia Campbell	Illinois
George Allen Forsaith	Maine
Isabel Burges Guild Forsaith	Massachusetts
Lew Charles Arlington	California
William Kennel Roberts	Missouri



Consular Run
ack & file
WBW

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, February 26th, 1892.

file

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Chinese Officials' resistance to Treaty
Stipulations for Commerce affecting Kerosene
importations in connection with all foreign goods.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Three inclosures marked
 $\frac{1}{A}$, $\frac{2}{B}$, and $\frac{3}{C}$.

No. 219

Consulate of the United States.

February 26th, 1892.

Honorable

Wm. T. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the Chinese Authorities at Canton have resolved to measures of an objectionable character to prevent foreign goods from being sent to the interior markets under the "Transit Pass or Certificate" system authorized by Treaties.

Enclosed I send you a translation in English of a public notice issued from the First Lihin Station in Canton, dated January 26th 1892, offering a reward of fifty dollars for the arrest of three natives, mentioned by their names, and accused of smuggling and fraudulently using the names of

1

Merchants in regard to transit passes for goods sent to the interior markets. Enclosed also is a translation of a notice issued from the same Station February 18th 1892, raising the reward to one hundred dollars for the arrest of either of the three aforementioned natives, and requesting the High Authorities to require the various Magistrates of the Province to use all diligence to cause the arrest of the natives mentioned as smugglers and fraudulent holders of Transit Passes for foreign goods going in the names of foreign merchants to the interior.

Interior. During January, 1892, the Chinese Authorities, or Leticia Officials acting by Authority of the High Officials of Quingtung Province, caused the arrest and imprisonment of ^{some} natives employed by foreign Merchants in the "Traut Bar" trade, and seized some *Mez*; for which "Traut Certificates" had been obtained by foreign Merchants upon payment of duty and half-duty & accordance with Treaty stipulations.

(3)

The Consular Body deemed it proper to give careful attention to these matters; and at two meetings of the Consuls held at this Consulate on the 22nd and 23rd instant, for the consideration of the two Chinese notices of which translations are inclosed, (marked $\frac{1}{A}$ and $\frac{2}{B}$ respectively.) we decided to remonstrate against the action of the Chinese Officials; and lay the facts before the Legations and Government of our respective Countries; as these notices had effectually extinguished the important traffic between Canton and interior markets for foreign commodities of commerce.

A copy of my dispatch to His Excellency, the Viceroy of the Two Kwangs, (Li Hau Cheng - elder brother of Li Hung Cheng, of Tientsin) is inclosed and marked $\frac{3}{C}$.

Intimidation, such as the objectionable Chinese notices ($\frac{1}{A}$ and $\frac{2}{B}$) results in, drives native compradors, clerks, and boatmen, as well as buyers, from touching goods covered by Transit Certificates at present.

The persons for whose Capture rewards are offered are well known Compudors and Clerks of foreign merchants, and legitimately employed in business that is authorized by Treaties.

Copies of the notices, and facts bearing on the case, have been sent by me in a dispatch dated 26th instant to Minister Denby at Peking. Among the foreign M^{os} extensively sent to the interior markets through Canton during the last half of 1891, American Kerosene formed a large item.

By a careful inspection of the Custom Houses' returns and records, in advance of the publication of their business for 1891, I find that during that year there were imported through the six Imperial Maritime Custom Houses of China on the Coast of this Province of Kwangtung, American Kerosene to the extent of about 10,016,000 gallons, or 1,011,000 Cases; of which Swatow took 10,000 Cases, Pakhoi 65,000 Cases, Kuning Chow 16,000 Cases, and Canton (including Kowloon & Lappa junk Carriers) 920,000 Cases.

In my dispatch N. 202, dated July 25th 1890, in which was inclosed a copy of my dispatch to H. E. the Viceroy during the lekin controversy of that year, you were informed of the nature of the prolonged contest between foreign merchants and Chinese officials, and the persistent efforts of the latter to defeat the "transit pass or certificate" trade between the Treaty ports and interior markets of China; because the Mandarins insisted upon having their "lekin" revenue on goods which the Treaty stipulated should be exempt from all dues whatever, after the Custom House duty and additional half duty had been paid thereon and "Transit Certificates" issued for conveyance of foreign goods to markets of the interior.

In my dispatch N. 214, dated August 17, 1891, you were informed

that the Chinese Authorities at Canton had reduced the "Le Kin" tax from 40% to 20% per case on Kerosene.

At the middle of last year (1891) foreign goods commenced moving to the interior under the Transit Passes Certificates for which the Consuls had labored in accordance with Treaty rights.

During the years ^{from} 1884- to the middle of 1891 traffic between the Coast ports and interior markets for foreign goods was prevented by the seizures, obstructions, delays, and annoyances of the "Le Kin" Officials; and although after much controversy the several cases were won by the foreign merchants through their Consuls; still, the delays, expenses, and uncertainties caused by the troublesome conduct of the native officials effectually extinguished business under Transit Certificates, and the Mandarins secured their "Le Kin" bribes.

During the last half of 1891, while the Chinese officials offered no restrictions to the admission of foreign goods to the interior under the "Transit Certificates" authorized by Treaties, there were sent into the interior through Canton about 3,000,000 gallons of American kerosene = 300,000 Cases; and through Peking about 170,000 gallons = 17,000 Cases, during 1891.

During 1891 the total imports of Russian kerosene into this Province of Kwantung amounted to about 480,000 gallons = 48,000 Cases.

As this Chinese violation to the clear provisions of Treaty seriously affects Commerce between China and Foreign Nations; it seems high time that some decisive measures should be adopted by Her Majesty's Govt. to secure observance of Treaty stipulations by Chinese Authorities and Officials throughout this Empire.

Nothing short of combined influence of foreign governments will ever cause Chinese officials to regard Treaty stipulations superior to the edicts of local mandarins in the treatment of foreign commercial interests.

Upon this one point of common interest to all foreign Nations, there ought to be no lack of agreement and co-operation, to secure honorable observance of Protections by China as to Commerce.

Separately and alone, any one Nation, in attempting to enforce stipulations about which other Nations manifest indifference would be made to feel itself engaged in an unprofitable controversy; but when all foreign interests are combined in a just demand, there is a certainty of compliance.

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant

Charles Seymour
W. A. [unclear]

Inclosures?
under clasp.

Translation of a Lekin Notification.

Canton River Lekin office notification.

In the matter of offering rewards for making arrests. This office imports and collects lekín dues on a hundred kinds of commodities; now, as the year is drawing to its end, in figuring over important importations such as cotton, cotton-yarn, cotton- goods, kerosene, matches etc, the receipt coming from them is extraordinary light; it is evident that dishonest merchants must have resorted to smuggling.

Now, it has already been found to be the actual fact that, in all cases, dishonest merchants - Li-choi-tung, Li-ki-an + Tung- C-pung have been accustomed to assume the responsibility to smuggle to such an extent as to falsely assume the names of foreign merchants in making fraudulent use of "Transit passes"; thereby avoiding payment of lekín dues. It is to be truly + deeply regretted.

Stringent measures should be adopted for their arrest + punishment should be inflicted so as to squelch such dishonesty.

Rewards are hereby offered for their arrest + notice is hereby given out for the knowledge of the people - whoever can have any one of the hereafter ~~mentioned~~ mentioned culprits captured + taken to this office, a reward of fifty dollars,

already prepared & put up in this office, is to be given over on the spot without fail. Let every one tremblingly obey.

Li-choi-tung }
 Li-kuan } both natives of Hoksau District
 Tung-E-mung, native of Hongsan District.
 January 26. 1892.



Dispatch No. 219

Translation of a Lekin Notification.

Canton River Lekin office notification: In the matter of increasing rewards for making arrests. This office has formerly learned that three dishonest merchants named Li-choi-Ting, Li-Kiran & Tung-E-pung have assumed the responsibility to smuggle. The records show that rewards have already been offered for their arrest. A long time has elapsed, yet no arrest has been made.

Spent frame requesting High Authorities to issue orders to the various district magistrates & at the same time sending notifications to the local officials of the aforesaid culprits respectively, to act in unison in arresting them for trial so as to render Lekin affairs in a quiet state; it is proper to hereby increase the reward offered for their arrests & to hereby make it known to the people - who ever can have any one of the hereafter-mentioned culprits captured & brought to this office, a reward of \$100, already prepared & put up in this office, is to be given over on the spot without fail. Let every one tremblingly obey.

Li-choi-Ting }

Li-Kiran } both natives of Koksau District.

Tung-E-pung, native of Honglan District.

February 18. 1892.

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, February 23rd 1892.

To His Excellency "Li,"

Viceroy of the Two Kiangs.

Sir:

The American Consul respectfully calls the attention of your Excellency to the fact that the business of sending foreign goods into the interior through the Port of Canton under the "Transit-pass" system provided for by Treaties between China and foreign governments, has almost ceased since the public notification from the Lixin station, which has been designated by your Excellency as the First Lixin station, offering rewards for the arrest of three natives named Li-chai-Ting, Li-Kiran and Tung-e-pung, who are accused of fraudulently using names of foreign merchants for "Transit-passes" and smuggling. One of the above named natives is employed by foreign merchants legitimately for honorable business purposes, including the lawful and proper business of carrying on traffic with the interior; another of the persons named is a son of the native first referred to, and properly employed as assistant of his father who is well and favorably known as the Compadore of a foreign merchant in the "Transit-pass" traffic between Canton and the interior. Probably the third native named has been similarly employed. The effect of the Lixin station notice referred to,

has been and is, to intimidate and deter natives from engaging in the service of foreign merchants who wish to avail themselves of the facilities stipulated in the Treaties for Trade with the interior under the "Transit-pass" system; and the said Lexin notification, while intimidating natives from acting either as employees of foreign merchants, or doing anything on their own account, in connection with "transit-passes", will also cause buyers of foreign goods in the interior to discontinue buying merchandise imported under the "Transit-pass" system, and thus the Treaties are rendered nugatory, and traffic with the interior extinguished as to foreign goods.

Wherefore Your Excellency is respectfully asked to cause the obnoxious, objectionable, and alarming notification issued by or from the Lexin Station on January 26th 1892 to be cancelled; and further, Your Excellency is respectfully asked to issue a clear proclamation which shall assure both natives and foreigners that the importation of foreign goods into the interior under "Transit-passes" is provided for under the Treaties between China and foreign governments, after the duty and additional half-duty shall have been paid at the Canton Custom House on the goods thus imported.

The "Chefoo Convention" stipulations in the

4th article of section III distinctly and plainly says—
 "The Chinese Government agree that Transit "
 "Duty Certificates shall be framed under one "
 "rule at all ports, no difference being made "
 "in the conditions set forth there-in; and that, "
"so far as imports are concerned, the nationality "
"of the person possessing and carrying ~~from~~ these "
"is immaterial."

That clearly exempts the goods & persons taking them to the interior under Transit Certificates from all interference or hinderance in reaching the interior markets. In view of these facts, will Your Excellency comply with the request herein respectfully conveyed?

The Consuls having had the objectionable letter notice of January 26th/1892 under consideration, deem it their duty to ask Your Excellency to see that the Treaty stipulations for international commerce and for trade with the interior of China shall not be defeated by intimidation from local officials in the manner described.

With renewed assurances of highest esteem, the American Consul sends compliments & cord.

Very Respectfully,

Your Excellency's obedient servant
 (signed) Charles Legman

U.S. Consul

(P. J. O.)

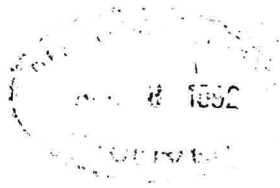
Postscript:

Since the foregoing dispatch was written, it has come to the knowledge of the Consuls that another and more objectionable notification was issued from the said Legation on the 18th instant, raising the reward from fifty to one hundred dollars for the arrest of either of the three afore-mentioned natives, and to request the High Authorities to require the various magistrates to capture those men, when all of them are well known to be in the employment and service of foreign merchants in legitimate business pursuits authorized by Treaties.

(Initialed) C.S.



Re Dispatch No. 219



Cons. Bureau
Inform Dept of Agr.
April 13 W. F. W.

No. 220

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, February 27th 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State

Subcultures
April 15/92

Copied
April 15, 1892

SUBJECT:

Imports of American flour for Chinese
consumption.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

- No. 220

Consulate of the United States.

February 27th, 1892.

Honorable

W. T. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that among the imports from the United States into China, which show steady increase from year to year, is American flour, chiefly from California and Oregon.

The consumption of American flour is evidently becoming more general among the intelligent and comfortable sections of the Chinese port.

In company with an experienced miller from the American Pacific Coast, who sells considerable flour for Chinese consumption in Southern China, I investigated

the subject yesterday; and have since gathered facts concerning imports of American flour at the six custom houses along the Coast of this Province of Kwangtung; which show that they amount to about one hundred thousand barrels per annum; of which about four fifths come through the ^{House} of Canton and the two junk traffic custom houses of Swatow and Hapoo; and one fifth through the other three ports of Swatow, Kiating-chow, and Pakhoi. The average flour imports for past two years exceeds 100,000 barrels per year. It comes usually in casks of 28 lbs; and is purchased by Chinese traders in San Francisco and Portland; and comes to native merchants in Hong Kong for distribution. As most of the Chinese in America are natives of this Province, the flour imports of Kwangtung are larger than in other Provinces, which fact suggests that Chinese consumption of American flour is likely to be extended with due attention.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour
M. S. Seymour



No. 221

cancel Blue

ack. file

[Signature]

Consulate of the United States

Canton, February 29, 1892

[Handwritten note:]
To Mr. Secretary
China
15 Apr.

[Signature: Mr. Seymour]

To the Department of State.

[Handwritten note:]
April 22/92

SUBJECT:

Chinese obstructions to Commerce

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Seizures of 900 Cases of American
Kerosene imported into
Kwang Si Province, under
"Transit Passes"; and arrest
and imprisonment of natives
in charge of the same*

No. 221.

Consulate of the United States.

February 29, 1892

Honorable

Wm. D. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in continuation of the subject matter of my No. 220 dated 27th instant, to inform that today I learned of further objectionable acts of the Chinese Officials in Kwangtung and Kwangsi Provinces, to prevent the transportation of American persons into the interior under "Transit Passes or Certificates", in clear disregard of our violation of treaties.

One lot of three hundred cases of American persons, sent January 9th 1892, from Canton under "Transit Pass" No. 82, was seized upon its arrival at place of destination - Wu Chow Kue, on the

2

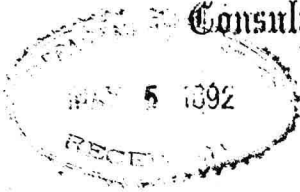
Prince of Kwangsi, near the frontier or
 boundary between the two Provinces with
 "Mek River"; and the native man
 in charge of the Revenue was arrested
 and imprisoned as a smuggler and criminal,
 because of the non-payment of the
 duty of 20¢ per case at Canton,
 from which the goods were exempt
 by payment of full duty and half-duty.
 Another lot of six hundred cases of
 American Revenue sent under
 "Transit Passes" Nos. 84, 85, 86, 87, 88 & 89,
 January 29, 1892, to "Shan Chow Tai",
 in Kwai Ping District, in Kwangsi Province,
 was, for similar reason, detained; and
 the natives in charge of the same arrested,
 upon the arrival of the cargo at its destination.
 Such wanton disregard of Treaty, and
 such hostility to the commercial interests
 of a friendly Nation, seem to call for cor-
 rective treatment; and as other Nations
 are alike interested in the proper observance
 of Treaty stipulations for the promotion of
 Commerce with and in China, these facts
 seem to demand attention. The Allegation is duly
 I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
 Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul

45.

No. 222



Consulate General
ack. & approved
entered of consul
WBW



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 12th 1892

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

Ans. May 23/92

SUBJECT:

Obstructions to importations of
foreign goods for interior markets under transit-passes.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

- Three inclosures - viz:
- 1 A. The Third L'etui Proclamation, of March 3, 1892.
 - 2 B. Dispatch from Viceroy to Consuls.
 - 3 C. Dispatch of Consul Seymour to Viceroy, March 10, 1892.

No. 222

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 12th 1892

Honorable *John P. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you,
in continuation of my dispatches - No.
219 dated 26th ultimo, and No. 221,
dated 29th ultimo, in regard to the
obstructions of the Chinese Officials
to the transit-pass trade in foreign
merchandise, between Canton and the
interior markets of the Provinces of
Kwangtung and Kwangsi, that His
Excellency, the Viceroy of the Two Kwangs,
Li Han Chang, sent to the Consul.

$\frac{1}{A}$ and $\frac{2}{B}$.

on the 2nd instant, a dispatch, of which a translation is inclosed; and on the following day he caused another (the third) notice or proclamation to be issued from No. 1 Litchi Station, a copy of the translation of which is also inclosed. These inclosures are marked and designated $\frac{1}{A}$ and $\frac{2}{B}$. This Litchi Notice is published in both of the native newspapers of Canton, and posted in public places.

The only progress made thus far in the correspondence between the Consuls and Viceroy is the fact that we have elicited from the Viceroy in his dispatch of the 2nd instant, and from the Litchi Officials in their notice or proclamation of 3rd instant, a declaration that native and foreign merchants stand on the same footing and both come to the out transit-passes.

8

This is certainly a good point gained; but its value is impaired, so long as the Chinese Officials insist upon making seizures of foreign goods going to the interior under transit-passes issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs House Officials, certifying that the duty, and also the additional half-duty thereon have been duly and fully paid, as provided by treaty stipulations between China and several foreign Nations; and so long as natives are arrested, imprisoned, and punished, for participation in the transit-pass trade in foreign goods, and for aiding in the conveyance of the same to the interior markets; when in the employment or service of foreign merchants owning the goods and holding the transit-passes; as well as when the goods are owned by native merchants.

The importance and magnitude of this trade in foreign goods with the interior was demonstrated last year.

European and American Cotton piece goods; British Indian Cotton yarns; German Lamps, dye-stuffs, and other commodities; American Kerosene, flour, condensed milk, gin-seng, ^{timed} spirits, et cetera & went to the interior markets of these two Southern Provinces of China (having nearly forty millions of people) in considerable quantities.

Of American Kerosene alone, during the last half of A.D. 1892, over 200,000 Cases (over 3,000,000 gallons) went to interior markets through Canton and other ports of this Province; but this trade has been suddenly arrested by the obstructive measures of the Chinese Officials, who found that their revenues from Leikin taxes and other local levies were diminished, or vanishing measurably, by the payments of the additional half-duty, prescribed by Treaties, to the Imperial Maritime Customs, in lieu of, and to exempt the cargo destined for the interior markets from, the Leikin taxes and all other levies of a local nature. That is the cause.

5

The Chinese authorities insist upon having their "lekin" tax paid before foreign goods start from Canton to the interior, and wish to levy on the goods at various "lekin" stations en route, and persist in levying upon the goods full "lekin" tax at the place of destination; and thus the local Mandarins disregard the Treaty stipulations which provided for the payment of additional half-duty to the Custom House in lieu of "lekin" & all other levies.

The Chinese merchants are powerless in the presence of their officials; and therefore stipulate, when buying the goods at Hong Kong or Canton, that the foreign merchants shall take out the transit-passes and send the goods to the interior; as foreign merchants, through their Consuls, resist the demands of the Chinese officials, after paying the promised duty and half-duty, and obtaining transit certificates from the Custom House.

6

On the one hand we insist that the goods are exempt from all levies, and seizures, and detentions, and annoyances, when covered by transit-passes or certificates; and that the ownership of the goods shall not be called in question after the duty and half duty have been paid thereon; while, on the other hand the Chinese authorities insist that when the property is actually owned by natives, it is subject to any taxes or levies Chinese authorities see fit to impose; and that Chinese subjects are amenable to Chinese authority.

Now, that the Viceroy and the Legation Office have asserted that foreign and native merchants stand on the same footing as to transit-pass trade under existing Treaties; the Councils will not consent that the old Chinese claim to do as the authorities please with their subjects shall prevail to defeat authorized commerce.

7

During the consideration of these matters, the Consuls have met four times at this Consulate, to compare views; and to avoid being scattered and separated upon points involved in our controversy with the Chinese Authorities.

Our dispatches have aimed to cover the salient points; and to inform the Viceroy with our united efforts in behalf of commercial interests for the promotion of which treaties were made between China and our respective Nations.

Herewith I transmit Copy of my dispatch of the 10th instant to His Excellency, the Viceroy - marked $\frac{3}{C}$.

His Consuls on the same day addressed the Viceroy on the same subject - keeping the same points in view. We also send copies of our correspondence to our respective Legations in Peking.

8

The Imperial Maritime Customs
 Officials find these obstructive
 measures of the Chinese
 Custom Officials are injuriously
 affecting the Customs' revenue,
 and therefore you will understand
 the ~~Customs~~ ^{Officials} in this context with
 the native Officials, will gladly
 further and promote our views,
 and sustain our efforts, and
 plans, and arguments; as will
 be inferred from inclosure marked
 "private", and designated as 4.

4/8

Hoping my action in
 this matter will have the approval
 of the Department of State, in
 view of the commercial interests
 involved in the pending controversy
 between the Consuls and the
 Chinese Authorities,

I am, Sir,

Dear Adm't Assistant
 Charles Seymour,
 No. 100.

Canton River Lexin Office Notification.

On the matter of issuing a notification:

Transit-passes are authorized by treaty terms; and Chinese and foreign merchants without exception can alike apply for ^{and receive} them. They are to ~~be~~ be inspected according to prescribed regulations when passing this office and are permitted to clear after having been ^{duly} visaed. They have been so treated in the past as the records show.

Orders have been just received from the Viceroy of the Two Kiangs to the effect that if genuine foreign merchants apply for transit-passes, they are to be treated according to prescribed customs without any need of entertaining any doubt or anxiety. If Chinese merchants make fraudulent use of names of foreign merchants by invoking them to apply for transit-passes for goods belonging to themselves, then the Chinese merchants are to be arrested and punished without leniency. If foreign merchants cover ~~the~~ ^{the} names of Chinese merchants to make entry and declaration of goods to the Customs House in the latter's behalf, upon being found out, then the foreign merchants are to be reported to the Viceroy who is to notify the Consuls of the different nationalities to investigate into them judicially that treaty terms might be observed and public minds

quieted.

On receipt of the above, notice is hereby given to merchants and subjects to uniformly obey. No disobedience is tolerated, this being a special notification.

March 3rd 1892.

$\frac{1}{A}$

Enclosure No. 1

Dispatch No. 222

An official dispatch from the Viceroy of the Two Kuangs in regard to transit-passes. March 2, 1892.

The Viceroy has to acknowledge having received two dispatches from the Hon. Council stating the propriety of withdrawing the Canton River Likin Office notification relative to the arrest of Li-choi-Ting, etc; and to state in reply that order had been immediately given to the deputy officer in charge of the said office to report thereon; who had just reported as the following: "Actual evidences have been found against Li-choi-Ting & others in the preceding year as dishonest merchants of having taken to smuggling by taking contracts & giving out sureties. The Likin Head Head Quarters had been informed thereof; where-upon reward was offered for their arrest. The search is made for the arrest of dishonest merchants of China, who are not known as compradores of the foreign firm of Andrew & Co.

Andrew & Co. had never taken to smuggling, what is there for their compradores to be alarmed at?

Furthermore, Li-choi-Ting in taking to smuggling does not involve Andrew & Co., so their business could be carried on as usual; what impediment is there about it? Foreign firms on Shanghai are indeed numerous; and, compradores of foreign firms are still more so. The business of

other firms has confronted with no difficulty and their compradones have not felt alarmed; what reason is there for the fore-mentioned firm to encounter difficulty alone, and their compradone to feel alarmed. Take it all in all, the reward was offered for the arrest of a dishonest merchant of China and not for a compradone of a foreign firm. The power to arrest a seditious smuggler belongs to the province to dictate. She certainly is in possession of proofs of smuggling, otherwise she would be unwilling to arrest innocent people at random. Furthermore, reward was offered for the arrest of not only Li-choi-ting, but if every person, in having a foreign firm to take up his case, on the strength of being ^{its} ~~the~~ ^{compradone} ~~pledge~~, should request to be acquitted, smugglers ~~with regard~~ will regard it as their precedent; and the power of self-dictating is succumbed to the encroachment of foreign firms.

The different foreign firms can as usual apply for transit-passes as provided for in treaty stipulations which are by no means to be violated or rendered nugatory; and, it is neither proper to prohibit Chinese people from being under the employment of foreigners according to the terms of treaties, but Chinese officials can still search for and arrest those who have transgressed her laws, and in conducting the search and making the arrest, as long as the precinct of a

foreign firm is not entered into, it does not seem that it is not in full compliance with treaty terms, etc.,"

The Viceroy, in view of the above, finds that the said office in making arrest of seditious smugglers is carrying out a power belonging to China to act of her own will; and in merely having written the characters of Li-Choi-Ting, it does not implicate the firm of Andrew & Co. If it were claimed that the Chinese authorities are not in a position to seek for those Chinese who are engaged by foreign firms for having broken laws, there is no such stipulation in the existing treaties. Orders have already been given to the said office to issue another notification about the matter of transit passes which can be applied for as usual by foreign merchants if they are genuine, so as to be in accord with treaty terms and to render the minds of foreign merchants at ease. As to Chinese merchants, they can also apply ^{for} these themselves; but if fraudulently using the names of foreign merchants, they are regarded as law-breakers.

The said office, in issuing a notice in which it plainly states that it is prohibitory to make fraudulent pretension of being foreign merchants, seems to have acted agreeably with treaty terms.

If Li-Choi-Ting conscientiously thinks that he

has not broken any laws, he can as usual
 carry on his business; and since he is
 a subject of China, the Chinese authorities
 would not arrest him for punishment at random.

If the firm of Andrews & Co. do not enter
 into contracts with Chinese merchants in reporting
 or declaring goods for their behalf, it can
 also carry on its business as usual
 without entertaining any doubt or anxiety.

A necessary reply to the U.S. Consul.

With compliments &c.

Dated March 2nd 1892

Rec'd " 3rd "

2
B

Enclosure No. 1
B

In Dispatch No. 222

(Copy)



3
C

To His Excellency
Li

Viceroy of the Two Kwangs.

Sir:

The American Consul respectfully acknowledges the receipt of Your Excellency's dispatch of the 2nd instant in relation to Transit-Passes and Sekin office notification, which is apparently intended as a reply to two dispatches from some other Consul on this subject, as the American Consul sent only one dispatch (which was dated 23rd ultimo) upon this matter.

It appears that on or about the same date the Consuls of Great Britain, France, Germany, Portugal, and the United States, sent dispatches on the same subject, to Your Excellency.

Each Consul expressed his own views of the subject under consideration in his own manner, and hoped that Your Excellency would favor him with a reply to facts, points, and arguments presented in his dispatch; but all seem to have received the same reply, irrespective of the contents of their several dispatches to Your Excellency. This is to be regretted; ~~As~~ all of the correspondence, with pertinent facts bearing on the case, will go, or have gone, to our respective Legations.

(2)

Legations and Governments, to show the determined resistance that has been and is being made to prevent legitimate commerce authorized by Treaties; as seen in the numerous seizures and detentions of foreign merchandize, and arrests of natives in charge thereof, and notices from Lekin Officials, which have a tendency to intimidate and deter natives from participation in the Transit-Pass trade.

The dispatches sent by the Consuls to Your Excellency were occasioned by two notices issued from the Lekin station, offering rewards for capture of certain persons (natives) named, and any others, who were characterized as "smugglers" and criminals, in connection with "transit-passes".

If the Chinese Authorities or Lekin Officials had or have any actual knowledge of facts showing that any "transit-pass" for foreign goods going to the interior from Canton has been fraudulently obtained by natives improperly using the name of any foreign Merchant, as alleged in those objectionable Lekin notices and intimated in Your Excellency's dispatch, it is hoped there will be no concealment of the fact; but, on the contrary, the Consuls will be glad to co-operate in preventing any fraudulent acts of the kind, and the foreign Merchants whose names have been so used ought to know who perpetrated the fraud, and when it occurred, and the number

(3)

the number of the pass fraudulently obtained; but unless the act can be clearly specified by the number and date of the pass thus fraudulently obtained, the accusation seems to be without any just cause; and we are reluctant to believe any fraud of the kind alleged has actually occurred.

Coming squarely to the pretext for issuing the first Lekin notice of January 26th 1892, offering rewards for the capture of natives employed by foreign merchants in 'transit-pass' trade with the interior, the diminution or decrease of Lekin revenue is plainly mentioned as 'evidence that dishonest merchants have resorted to smuggling'; when in point of fact the payment of additional hat-duty to the Custom House Officials as provided by Treaty on goods going to the interior under 'Transit-Passes' in lieu of Lekin and all other levies, had aroused the Lekin Officials to issue notices which proclaimed that natives who were known to be in the employment of foreign merchants doing business under 'transit-passes' were smugglers and criminals, for whose capture a reward would be paid; and furthermore by arrest, imprisonment, and punishment of persons in charge of merchandize under 'transit-passes' rightfully obtained and issued; and by seizures and detentions

(4)

and detentions of such Merchandize in the interior; natives were intimidated and prevented from doing any "transit-pass" business, or buying foreign goods covered by "transit-passes":

The second Letim Station notice issued February 18th 1892 made matters worse, by raising the reward from fifty to one hundred dollars, and invoking the aid of the High Chinese Authorities and the several Magistrates in capturing the natives engaged as alleged.

The seizure of foreign merchandize at Fatsun in January last, and the arrest of natives employed by foreign merchants in charge of the same; and the seizure of three hundred Cases of American Kerosene at "Wai Chow Foo", in Kwang Si Province, and the arrest of the native in charge of the same, after the goods had been sent to that place under "Transit Pass" N. 82, showing that duty and additional half-duty thereon had been duly and fully paid at the Custom House in Canton; and the seizure of six lots of American Kerosene in February last sent to the District of Kwei Ping in Kwang Si, amounting to six hundred Cases, sent to the interior under Transit Passes numbered 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, showing that "duty and half-duty" had been paid thereon in Canton.

(5)

in Canton Custom House, January 22, 1892, are clear and emphatic evidences of a determined resistance against the transit-pass trade; which trade is authorized by Treaties, and is conducted with faithful observance of Treaty stipulations by foreign merchants.

In one instance within the past week the Lixin Officials, with underlings and soldiers, to the number of thirty or forty persons, detained a cargo of foreign Cotton yarn at Canton, and threatened the seizure of the goods and the arrest of natives in charge, to prevent its shipment to the interior under transit passes, until a Consular Officer interfered in behalf of the owner.

How can any one justify such interference with and obstruction to commerce, which is authorized by Treaties, as the detention of 400 Cases of American Kerosene at Sin King Foo, when en route to Kwang Si Province, under passes No. 2008 & 2009, issued by the Canton Custom House to cover the same in transit, showing the duty and half-duty had been duly and fully paid? And on what pretext were these transit passes taken from the natives in charge of the merchandise? And after returning the passes to their rightful owners, on demand of their Consul, after

(6)

after a detention of the goods and boats and boatmen for eleven days, why were the same goods again seized with the boat in which they were conveyed, and even now kept under seizure at Si-King-Suen, unless for the purpose of worrying merchants out of their legitimate business by delays and expenses which will prevent it from being remunerative?

Another instance recently occurred of a shipment of foreign cotton goods which reached Canton, intended for the interior markets under the "Transit-Pass" regulations prescribed by Treaty, having been shipped back to its foreign owners in Hongkong, when it was learned that the Chinese officials would so obstruct the lawful and proper purposes of the owners as to hazard the safety of their property and that of the persons in charge.

There are a few of the palpable evidences of unjustifiable obstruction to commerce, which, in connection with the alarming notices issued by the Lekin Office, are respectfully cited for Your Excellency's consideration; and the American Consul would like to be informed how such acts, which have suddenly and effectually stopped business authorized by Treaty stipulations between China and foreign countries, can be reconciled with the great fact acknowledged by Your Excellency in the aforementioned dispatch of March

(7)

March 2, 1892, to the Consuls, that foreigners and natives are alike authorized to import foreign goods and convey them to the interior markets under 'transit passes' according to existing Treaties.

As that point is plainly acknowledged in your Excellency's dispatch, and in the last or third notice from the Lekin Station under date of March 3rd 1892 in compliance with your Excellency's instructions, will your Excellency have the kindness to explain how and why foreign goods sent to the interior under transit-passes can be treated as smuggled goods by seizure, confiscation, or detention, when the Custom House certificates accompanying the merchandize show that the duty prescribed by Treaty has been duly and fully paid thereon?

And, too, why should natives in charge of or buying such merchandize be arrested, imprisoned and punished as smugglers and malefactors when in charge of or participating in business which your Excellency admits is authorized by Treaties?

And why should rewards be offered for the capture of natives who have been employed by foreign merchants in carrying on the transit pass business legitimately and properly; when the prescribed duty has been paid on the merchandize, and no criminal act is cited to show they are not

-Honest

(8)

honest men; unless for the purpose of intimidation by offering such rewards for their capture?

The Guefoo Convention Treaty, quoted in the American Consul's dispatch to Your Excellency on 23rd ultimo, declares the nationality of the holders of the transit certificates immaterial. Certainly after the prescribed duty and additional half-duty have been paid, it is not of the slightest consequence who is in charge of the goods. Care is observed by all concerned that the passes or certificates for the merchandize in transit shall be exhibited at the various Lekin stations en route to place of destination where they are surrendered. Every possible means are employed to prove that the merchandize in transit is duly covered by certificates; and it is utterly impossible to smuggle a large lot of these bulky goods when such precautions are taken to prevent smuggling. Then what is the object of offering rewards for the capture of natives in charge of merchandize under transit-passes; when there is and can be no smuggling under such passes; and when the Treaty declares the nationality of the holders of those certificates is of no consequence; unless it be for the purpose of intimidating natives, so they will not dare to touch or assist in conveying merchandize to the interior under transit-passes?

The attention of Your Excellency is
respectfully

(4)

respectfully called to the Article XXIV of the Treaty of 1863 between China and Prussia which distinctly declares - "Goods on which duties have been paid in" "any of the ports open to foreign trade, upon being" "sent into the interior of the country shall not be" "subject to any but transit duty"; and following that agreement is a clause stating - "If any of the" "Chinese Officers violate the stipulations of this" "Article by demanding illegal or higher duties" "than allowed by law, they shall be punished" "according to Chinese law."

Under "the most favored nation" article in all or nearly all of the Treaties any benefits derived by any Nation under Treaty with China shall accrue to other Nations.

Now, when the Chinese Letchin officials levy other duties upon foreign merchandise covered by transit passes, or going to the interior markets under transit certificates, are they not liable to punishment? If so, it is hoped they may not be so severely punished as was a native recently at Mouituk in the Prefecture of Ko-Chow in Kwang Tung Province, who had six hundred blows inflicted on him because he was suspected of assisting an American Missionary to hire a dwelling.

Your Excellency is respectfully requested to
 bear

(10)

bear in mind the following points- viz:

- 1st That the Treaties authorize the importation of foreign goods to interior markets under transit passes showing that duty has been paid thereon, and also additional half-duty, to exempt the goods from all other levies.
- 2nd That goods thus imported are not smuggled; and persons in charge of the same, or holding transit passes for said goods, are neither smugglers or criminals for having assisted in obtaining such transit certificates, or aiding in the conveyance of said goods to interior markets; and therefore it is unjustifiable intimidation to offer rewards for the capture of natives employed by foreign merchants in carrying on this transit trade between Canton and the interior markets.
- 3rd That the Lekin officials who have obstructed commerce authorized by Treaties; and offered rewards for the capture of Compradores, Clerks and employees of foreign merchants engaged in the transit trade; and seized cargoes of goods covered by transit passes properly issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs of China; and arrested and imprisoned natives rightfully employed in the conveyance of such goods to their places of destination; are not the persons
from

(11)

from whom should emanate proclamations defining the rights of foreigners or natives under Treaty stipulations between China and foreign nations; and therefore, to put matters straight and clear before the business public and all concerned in commerce, it is obviously and manifestly proper that your Excellency, as the Viceroy or Governor General of the Two Kwangs, whose authority is respected and unchallenged, should, in plain and explicit terms, issue a Proclamation, rescinding the objectionable and disastrous notices, seizures, arrests, and obstructive measures, which have alarmed and intimidated natives, and thwarted the business arrangements of foreign merchants, to such a degree as to have extinguished the greater portion of a legitimate branch of commerce which is recognized by your Excellency as guaranteed by Treaties.

With renewed assurances of highest esteem, the American Consul sends compliments and cord.

Charles Seymour
A. S. Paul

Enclosure No. 3

The Dispatch No. 222

Private.

CUSTOM HOUSE,

CANTON, 11. March, 1892.

Dear Mr. Seymour,

I beg again to thank you for the copy of your despatch to the Viceroy against local officials obstruction & intimidation to transit trade &c. It is an able document & I hope that it will have the desired effect in due course. The Viceroy may or may not refer the matter to me - if he does, I should like to be forearmed & have also copy of H.C.'s despatch to which yours is a reply - if you don't mind letting me have a copy or allowing me to copy the original?

I trust you will continue to impart to your colleagues some of your indomitable energy.

Yours very truly,
H. H. Rockett,

No.

223



box. Bureau
ack & file
W. F. W.

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 19th 1892

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

Transit pass trade

SUBJECT:

Transit pass trade

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Transmitting translation of the
Viceroy's dispatch of March
17, 1892, in regard to alleged
obstructions to transit-pass trade,
and action of Consuls thereon.

No. 223

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 19th 1892

Honorable Wm. F. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you, in continuation of my No. 222 dated 12th instant upon the transit pass trade, that His Excellency, "Li Han Chang," the Viceroy of the Two Kwangs, has replied to the four Consuls who sent dispatches to him on the 10th instant, and plainly avows his approval of the obstructive measures against which they remonstrated.

2

He claims that the Chinese officials having proclaimed that foreign and native merchants can take out transit passes for foreign merchandise going to the interior markets, are strictly in line with Treaty requirements; and that if the merchants do not see fit to avail themselves of that right, there is nothing compulsory about it, and the merchants can do as they please in the matter; but he does not attempt to explain why the goods that are sent from Canton to the interior are detained and seized; and only refers to arrests of natives in charge of such shipments as an undoubted right of China to investigate the acts of Chinese subjects at all times.

3

The Councils yesterday met for consultation, and to compare items of information gleaned from various sources, and to consider the Viceroy's replies to their several dispatches of the 10th instant, in which they remonstrated against the obstructive measures adopted by the Chinese officials to break up the transit-pass trade in foreign goods between Canton and the interior markets of the two populous Provinces of Szechwan and Kiangsi.

We ascertained that last year (1891) over two thousand transit passes were issued by the Canton Custom House; and that 142 transit passes were thus issued in January of 1892.

The three objectionable and mischievous Letter Office notices of January 26th, February 18th and March 3rd 1892, with seizures and arrests

4

at various points in these two
Provinces of Kwangtung and Kiangsi,
produced immediate and expected
results in the sudden and almost
total annihilation and extinguishment
of the transit pass trade in
foreign goods, as verified by the
records of the Canton Custom House;
where only six transit passes
were issued in February (1892),
all of which were for Indian
cotton yarn; and only fourteen
small transit passes in March
up to the 17th instant; all of which
were for Indian cotton yarn, the
total quantity of which amounted
to less than eight tons, of the approx-
imate value of 3,420 Taels - about four
thousand dollars. W. H. Murray.

Under such circumstances,
the Consul deemed it unwise to
prolong the correspondence with the Viceroy,
after he had clearly avowed his purpose
to defend the obnoxious measures
adopted to prevent the transit trade.

5

We therefore decided to lay the facts before our respective Legations without delay by telegrams, which went to Peking yesterday - nearly all of the Legations having kept their Ministers fully advised of the proceedings at Canton by dispatches, some of which have already reached Peking.

The Inspector General, Sir Robert Hart, in Peking, has also been kept fully informed on the subject, by dispatches and telegrams from the Commission of Customs at Canton for the Imperial Maritime Customs of China.

My telegram to Minister Aubrey states: "Since January, transit pass" "trade paralyzed by Likin notices." "Seizures, arrests, ^{with} approval of Viceroy."

The telegrams of the other Legations were of similar purport.

United action by the Foreign Legations at Peking, sustained by their respective Governments, may possibly avert serious injury to

6

The commerce of Western Nations;
as these obstructive measures
in Southern China are being adopted
by Chinese Officials in other parts of
the Empire; and the sooner the
evil is abated, the better for the
Commercial and industrial interests
of foreign Countries.

1/A

As a specimen of Mandarin
twaddle, I transmit herewith the
reply of H.E. the Viceroy (as per translation
marked and designated "A"), received on
the 18th instant, elicited by my dispatch
of the 10th instant, a copy of which
accompanied my No. 222, of 12th inst.,
to the Department of State.

In his replies to the other Consuls
the Viceroy more distinctly defends the
obstructive measures against which the
Consuls remonstrated.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

Copy

A

An official reply from the Viceroy of the Kwangtung to the U.S. Consul at Canton about "transit-passes."

The Viceroy has to acknowledge having received the Hon. Consul's foreign dispatch (dated March 10, 1892)

The Hon. Consul's dispatch under acknowledgement states that reward has been offered and notice issued by the lexim office for the arrest of foreign merchants' compradore. The notice of the said office contains no words meaning compradore of foreign firm. How can fault be attached for not informing the Consuls of it? As to the statement to the effect that the said office aims to deprive the Chinese of the rights of transit-passes; it is a mere supposition, unfounded and wanting proof and devoid of any means for investigation. Again the various cases referred to in the said dispatch do not have reference to the interests

of genuine foreign merchants. Erroneous and unauthentic reports must have been made about them.

In what way could it be regarded as evidence of prohibiting and ~~extinguishing~~ transit-passes? Are they not being taken out now? or, Have they been prohibited and ~~extinguished~~?

The said dispatch also states that the notice put out by the said office regarded transit-passes as means of smuggling. The Viceroy in examining it, finds that it does not contain any such statement.

As to the treaty stipulations referred to, China is conducting herself at present in no way contrary to them. What need is there for troublesome words?

Again, it states that in the locality of Muiluk, suspicion exists that certain Chinese was the instrument in renting a house for a missionary, for which he

was inflicted with six hundred rods. Chinese officials in punishing their subjects have never resorted to the use of rods; wherefore it must have been wildly reported; and besides it bears no relation to the present subject.

In conclusion, the dispatch states that the rights of foreign and Chinese merchants cannot be interfered with by that lewd deputy officer.

The rights of foreign merchants are provided for by treaty; the Viceroy conducts business in harmony with its terms; those who are entitled to them are in a position to enjoy them; and those not entitled to them cannot enjoy them.

As Chinese merchants are subjects of China, and since China bestows bounties or rights to foreign merchants; is it reasonable that she would be hard to her own subjects, and not all the more bestow them on Chinese merchants?

However, China is bound to punish those who have transgressed her laws. How can it be claimed that Chinese officials ought not to interfere. That statement in view of treaty terms is indeed a violation, etc.

With compliments etc.
March 17th 1892.

No. 224

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 19

1892

Consular Bureau
ack. file

file WFW

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Disturbance near Yung Kong
in the southern part of Kwangtung Province.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. *264*

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, *March 19th 1892*

Honorable *Wm. F. Wheaton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that in the District of Young Kong, near the Southern Coast of this Province of Kiangtung, about one hundred and fifty miles South West from Canton, there has been, for a few weeks past, a disturbance, amounting to a defiance of the authority of Chinese Officials, by a strong Clan of natives by the name of "Tam"; who allege that they have a serious grievance by the severities of the Magistrate or Chief native Official at Young Kong; and have been keeping themselves free to the property of others.

The marauding force of the "Tsun" Clan is estimated to number between one and two thousand persons. They are known as "Hakkas", who, when aroused to hostilities, are rough fellows to control. The formation of the country, and the water-ways, in that part of the Province, favor operations of guerrilla bands. Two hundred armed soldiers were sent from Canton to Hung Kung, where conscription was resorted to by the Authorities, to increase the force of soldiers for maintaining the authority of Chinese Officials. Some conflict has occurred; and, although not of a very serious nature, indicates a determined purpose on the part of the "Hakkas" to resist the Authorities. The "Tai Ping" rebellion commenced in a similar clan resistance to local Authorities; and it may require considerable time, and increased military force to restore order and tranquility.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

No. 225

Consular Bureau
20th Consul of
Canton is approved
1892
10/10/92

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 23rd 1892

Mr. Seymour

Am.
May 9/92

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Outrages at "Chik Hom" March 20th 1892.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

A small Chapel, and domicile of
native preacher, looted at "Chik Hom".

The Mission being of the Mission of
the American Presbyterian Society.

Total loss (mostly by natives) about \$1000

No. 225

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, March 23rd 1898

Honorable *Wm. F. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that at "Chik-Hom", about 120 miles South-west from Canton, on Sunday 20th instant, during Divine service, the Chapel of the American Presbyterian Mission, and domicile of the native preacher and his family, (in a hired house), were assailed by a gang of native ruffians; who broke the door, benches, and furniture of the Chapel, and looted

The Chapel and Domicil - Des-
troying and carrying away property
(mostly owned by natives)
to the value of about one hundred
dollars. The native preacher and
his family, and the native preacher
of the American Congregational Mission
in that vicinity, who was present,
were rudely and roughly treated.

I have called the attention of His
Excellency, the Viceroy, to the case;
and asked ^{him} to promptly apply corrective
measures, which will probably stop mischief.

These outrages seem to have no
connection with the disturbances,
reported in my No. 224 of 19th instant,
at and about "Kung Kong"; which, it is
believed, have subsided measurably, under
the military treatment of Chinese officials.

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant
Charles Seymour
Vice Consul

Consular Bureau

Ack *[Signature]*
W.B.W.

GENERAL
No. 226

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, *March 25th 1892*

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Chinese Kerosene-Syndicate.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 226

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 25th 1892

Honorable. *Amos A. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department of State that a recently formed native syndicate are in vigorous operation for the monopoly of carrying on the Kweichow trade between Canton and the interior, under some special contract with the "Lekin" tax office; whereby transit passes (provided for by Treaty) are dispensed with, by the payment of a certain stipulated sum by the Syndicate to the Lekin Officials; since the latter have succeeded in setting aside the Treaty. The outcome of this plan may be beneficial to American interests contrary to Chinese intention.

I am glad to state, that, under
 this new and irregular exchange
 process of doing business, American
 Kerosene is going forward from
 Canton to the interior markets at
 the rate of over ten thousand Cases per
 month. The Syndicate was formed
 as an experiment; and as it yields
 revenue to the "Lekin" officials or
 Mandarins, and profit to the
 Syndicate, the monopoly franchise
 will probably be renewed; and similar
 syndicates will be formed for other
 branches of trade, or other commodities
 of commerce. Thus the contest is
 between the Imperial Maritime Customs
 and the Mandarins or "Lekin" Office.
 The demand for American Kerosene in
 the interior is being supplied; and its
 consumption will increase, instead of
 being strangled as was originally intended.
 I am, Sir, Your Obedt. Servant Charles Legg

27 1892

No. 227

Consulate of the United States, Canton,
March 31st, 1892.

M^r. Seymour
To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Account, vouchers, and returns,
for quarter ended
March 31st 1892.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 227

Consulate of the United States.

March 31st, 1892.

Honorable

Wm. F. Barton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith account, vouchers, and returns from this Consulate for the quarter ended this day, as per subjoined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

Dear Adiant Salut

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

List of inclosures viz

1. Account with Vouchers.
2. Digest of Invoice Book.
3. Arrivals & Departures Am. Vessels.
4. Record of Notarial Services.
5. Summary of Business.



No. 228



*File
Sent by Mr. Hamilton*

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, May 20, 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

World's Columbian Exhibition at Chicago

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Enclosing Copy of translation of an interesting
Article published in the Chinese Southern Times
of May 18th 1892, on the "Inexpediency of
Chinese attending the American Exposition".*

No. 228.

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, China, May 20th, 1892.

Honorable

Genl. W. H. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Copy of a translation of an interesting article published in the native newspaper Southern Times, (Ling Nan Daily Reporter), at Canton, May 18th 1892, on the "Expedition of Chinese attending the American Exposition" - marked $\frac{1}{A}$.

When Reverend Edward Sidney Williams (formerly of Minneapolis, Minnesota) was here 10th December 1891, between thirty five and forty Chinese merchants, manufacturers, and business men of Canton came, at my request, to this Consulate, to hear his statements as "Commissioner", in regard to the forthcoming Exhibition at Chicago.

2

They manifested much interest in the American Exhibition; and many of them expressed a strong desire to send exhibits to, and participate in, what they believe is to be the World's greatest and best of Exhibitions; but they politely intimated that they feared obstacles of a formidable nature might prevent them from so doing.

Since that time the published reports and prevalent rumors as to the exclusion of Chinese from the United States have had a tendency to increase the belief that it will be impossible or impracticable for them to attempt an elaborate exhibit of Canton productions at Chicago.

The article referred to is of such a nature that its publicity in the United States would serve to clearly inform the public of the actual feeling entertained by the intelligent merchants and business men of Canton, and of China generally, upon the subject of exhibitions, and especially the American Exposition at Chicago; in connection with restrictions against Chinese merchants visiting the United States, with no intention of becoming resident permanent residents thereof.

3

Some of these merchants, with much satisfaction and pride, expose, in their offices or sales-rooms, framed diplomas for their exhibits at Philadelphia, Vienna, London and Paris Expositions; and would gladly make liberal expenditures in fitting up space assigned to them for display of *Wdy*; and few of them, if any, would be tempted to reside away from their native land.

Yesterday I forwarded to the Director General, Hon George R. Davis, at Chicago, by special request of a Chinese merchant, application for space at the Chicago Exhibition. This man has exhibited Canton productions at three exhibitions in Europe; where he received gold and silver medals; and wishes to take to Chicago exhibits to the value of between thirty and forty thousand dollars; and proposes to expend between two and three thousand dollars in inclosing and fitting up the space that may be assigned to him; and unless he is "boycotted," he will adhere to his purpose.

With abundance of "Exhibition literature," I am unable to assure Chinese merchants

4
what facilities will be granted by the Government of the United States to exhibitors from China at the Chicago Exhibition. Although China has not appointed a "Commissioner" for the Exhibition; an expression of friendly feeling toward the enterprise took form in authorizing the "Imperial Maritime Customs of China" to exempt all goods going to and (or) returning from the Exhibition, from export duty or import duty at any and all of the Chinese ports.

The assurance that China will not, for reasons specified, participate in the Exhibition at Chicago, does not, in view of those Custom House facilities, seem to imply that Chinese exhibitors will encounter any opposition from the Chinese Government, or local authorities in Chinese ports.

If Consular Officials of the United States in China can do any thing to supply information or assistance needed by Chinese exhibitors in the absence of a Chinese Commissioner,

5

by assuring them what requirements must be conformed to by Chinese exhibitors, and what facilities they would enjoy as such; such services would, I believe, be cheerfully rendered and highly appreciated; and would, doubtless, have a tendency to strengthen exhibits of Chinese productions at Chicago exhibition.

I am, Sir,

Dear obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

1892

"The inexpediency of Chinese attending
the American Exposition" - Southern Times May 12, 1892.

"Every nation of the Western Hemisphere regards commercial interest as an important factor. Therefore exhibitions of commodities are constantly undertaken for the purpose of classifying the natural products of each nation of the globe; so that they can be seen in an united body, and their excellence and scarceness can be distinguished, as well as the delectation of the populace can be discerned, to the end that commercial interests might be enlarged & the sources of gain availed of.

However, the world is large, and, abounds in commodities of unlimited descriptions. What medium is there that can be employed to bring about the people of the world together as of one family to inspect them? Therefore, when an exposition is about to take place, it is necessary to notify beforehand the government of each nation to issue orders to its respective merchants to prepare different kinds of commodities such as inventions, fine arts, as well as the paraphernalia necessary to scholars, and implements used by farmers, artisans, merchants, & the "3 sects" & "9 callings or professions" together with the different specimens of natural productions;

all of which can be conveyed to the exposition. And when the exposition closes, those which excel in excellence, the people invariably vie with one another in procuring by purchase. The profit made thereby, sometimes ^{are} ten, sometimes, hundred times in excess of their first costs. On which account, merchants of different nationalities are glad to be engaged therein. As to the expenses incurred by the nation holding the exposition, they amount to no less than several millions of dollars. Although the expenditures are enormous, yet the receipt accruing from the sale of admission tickets and sites for erection of buildings, fully & adequately repay them without any risk of losing thereby. But the profit gained by merchants participating in it is indeed exceedingly great.

Of the expositions held by the different nationalities hitherto, ~~for~~ the one held by the French government, a few years ago, was the grandest. One is to be held in America at Chicago in the coming year; which is to be followed by one in close similarity in Germany, as merchants have been notified to contribute towards it and to arrange its financial requirements. If this one is to take place, then within a few years' time, expositions will take place, one succeeding another, with the one in America leading the list & followed by one in Germany. There will not only be a new Era for the sight & perception of mankind, but commerce will all the more

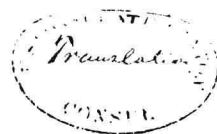
flourish bestowing boundless advantages.

In looking over the beautifullness of the natural productions of the world, China takes the lead; and as to the matter of commerce, no other nation is comparable with her; no western people, in their commercial intercourse, regard the acquirement of Chinese treaty ports as indispensably necessary; and as to expositions, they regard the attendance of Chinese as favor bestowed; for of all the articles exhibited in the exposition held by France a few years ago, those manufactured by the Chinese were considered to be the best. So any one would know without asking, that in the coming exposition in America, the attendance of Chinese is desired. ~~for~~ All along, the existing relations between China and the United States have been of a friendly character; and the annual imports from the latter into China are reckoned no less than a few millions worth of dollars; and the Chinese residing in America now exceed the number of 100,000. Although America has passed laws prohibiting and limiting Chinese from further entering into her territory; yet in view of the anticipated exposition in the coming year, they have been temporarily laid aside and amendments have been especially made allowing Chinese to attend the exposition. But it is reported, that when the amendments were being framed, it was feared lest the Chinese, availing themselves of the occasion, would gain their admittance; so a stringent law

has been passed purposely, to the effect that those of the Chinese coming to the exposition are only permitted to be present during its duration, and are forbidden to roam about ^{any} other locality; and furthermore, they are to be watched over by soldiers deputed by American officials, so as to guard against them from stealthily going elsewhere, and to counteract the chance of being left behind. Such acts or laws are extremely impolitic as well as disrespectful to the Chinese, who, being subjected in their movements to the surveillance of soldiers, do not differ from convicts placed under custody & restriction. Chinese who have the least sense of self-respect would on no account think of going there; for the Chinese government has already instructed the Chinese Minister in America that China will not be represented in the coming American Exposition, on account of the American government having violated treaty stipulations in forbidding & limiting Chinese to further enter her territory; so that China would not take part in that exposition to show the justice of resorting to retaliatory measures. Further more, exasperating laws have been recently ~~meditated upon~~ ^{contemplated} by American Representatives to drive all the Chinese out of the United States; ^{hence} ~~thereby~~ it is very evident that their treatment of the Chinese is not only light but hateful in the extreme. In the coming

American Exposition, even if Imperial Edicts had not announced its disapproval, I know that Chinese would not think of being present, but since its intention had been proclaimed far & near, what official or subject amenable thereto would dare to disobey. But it is rumored that a Chinese attaché, in one of the foreign legations at Peking, in behalf of an unscrupulous merchant volunteered to undertake to make an exhibition at the Exposition named. Report to that nature had appeared in the newspapers in Hongkong; and all those who have had a reading of it, are wholly of the opinion that that merchant whose mind is so absorbed in wishing to take up what is rejected by others, is totally devoid of the sense of self-respect & that of shame; and that the said attaché in submitting himself to follow the suite of a (foreign) minister is in clear violation to governmental precepts. Therefore, the different newspapers had it circulated to the end that the said attaché & merchant might retract.

Reading from New York papers that Chinese attending the exposition will be under the surveillance & custody of soldiers, I am of the opinion that the treatment of the Chinese at the hands of the Americans is perfectly outrageous; and the Chinese who still wish to attend the exposition, cannot be looked upon as Chinese subjects."



No. 229.



Can. Bureau
Improve
W.B.W.

Consulate of the United States, Canton,
June 14th 1892.

M^r Seymour

ask of Treasury
Bonds to Treasury
Comm. order
August 15



To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Vice Consul and Deputy Consul.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Transmitting 5 inclosures
marked

$\frac{1}{A}$. $\frac{2}{B}$. $\frac{3}{C}$. $\frac{4}{D}$ and $\frac{5}{E}$.
Bonds and Agreements.

Op 229

Consulate of the United States.

June 14th 1889

Honorable

Wm. D. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State, .

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that since the death of Sidney Nye, Esquire, at Canton, China, January 25th 1888, there has been no Vice Consul at this Consulate.

Permit me to call your attention to my dispatch on this subject, No. 158, dated January 8th 1889, to the Department of State; and also to the dispatch No. 115, dated February 25th 1889, in reply thereto; for facts, which I respectfully adopt as the basis of my action, as set forth in this dispatch, to meet existing or future requirements, in regard to filling the vacancy caused by the death of the lamented Vice Consul Nye.

2

With this, I return to the Department of State the blank bond which was intended for Dr. John S. Kerr; who is now in America, for the benefit of his impaired health, which has been broken by his arduous duties, as Superintendent or President of the great Medical Mission Hospital in Canton for over a third of a century. Return his occasional absence and illness, he has not been able to perform consular duties, if he had been called upon to do so for any great length of time; and as my own excellent health has not required any relief, ~~therefore~~ ^{therefore} he has continued up to the present time, without the arrival of any American resident, whose services might be available, if in requisition, as Vice Consul.

Mr. Heron B. Loringham, who has been the business manager at Canton for the American firm of Messrs Russell & Company, and is now acting in a similar capacity for the British firm of Messrs Shearman & Company, is the only qualified business American at Canton, (outside of Messrs. Morrison, Messrs. Harve, and Navigation circles, at Canton,) and he is usually about about one third of each year.

3

The pressure of his business engagements would preclude the assumption of any official business of the nature of Consular duties; and his participation in the Commission business as buyer of wool for American and European markets ~~would~~ be regarded by foreign merchants as a disqualification, as they would seriously object to having their wools inspected by a rival merchant.

The American missionaries are more or less engaged in duties that demand occasional or frequent absence from Canton; and even when in Canton, are remote from the Consulate.

The Canton House officials, who are American residents, are so subject to the commands of their superior officers as to be wholly disqualified for Consular service or as guardians of foreign interests. American residents engaged in navigation are necessarily absent from Canton a considerable portion of the time. Foreign consuls and Vice consuls cannot be asked to assume duties which bring them little compensation, and they are suddenly

4)

transferred from one post to another. And, too, they do not deem it much of an honor to serve under a government which practically treats its consular officials as a pack of rascals; for the U.S. Government is, I believe, the only one on the Globe which requires its consuls to go before some qualified official to stand to the correction of his accounts.

At a meeting of American residents, duly convened, at this Consulate March 24th 1892; on motion of Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Henry, of the American Presbyterian Mission; and seconded by Rev. Dr. Roswell H. Graves, of the American (South) Baptist Mission; it was unanimously resolved —

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the
"Vice-Consulship, owing to the death of
"the late incumbent, Gideon Nye, Esq.,
"the American residents in Canton, assembled
"in pursuance of the Call of the U.S. Consul,
"have considered the matter of filling this
"vacancy; and heartily concur in the
"recommendation that Mr. David MacHaffie
"be appointed to fill the vacancy."

5

David MacKaffie is my son-in-law,
a Scotchman, and well and firmly
known as the competent and trustworthy
Agent of the eminent British firm of
Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Company,
Ship-owners, merchants, &c in and
between Great Britain, India, China,
and Japan; and does not come into
competition with any other Canton
^{merchants or} firms in general trading to
American markets, except raw
silk. I find Mr MacKaffie's
appointment as U.S. Vice Consul
would be generally acceptable and
satisfactory. His bond duly executed
is herewith transmitted marked $\frac{2}{B}$.

$\frac{2}{B}$

The bond of Mr Chiu Poy Hoo,
is also herewith transmitted - $\frac{3}{C}$.

$\frac{3}{C}$

He is the very competent and
trustworthy Interpreter at this Consulate.
He was educated at Norwich and
New Haven, Connecticut, as one
of "the Chinese students" in the U.S.,
and had two years study in
Yale College. He is highly esteemed.

6/

The consent of the British Legation
in China, and of Messrs Jardine,
Matheson & Co., has been obtained
for Mr MacKaffie to act as U.S. Vice Consul.

The agreement between MacKaffie
and myself is herewith transmitted - $\frac{4}{D}$.
The agreement between Chinn Poy Woo
and myself is also herewith
transmitted - $\frac{5}{E}$.

Hoping the foregoing terms
may have your approval,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
McDonald.

Five inclosures
under one band.
 $\frac{1}{A} \frac{2}{B} \frac{3}{C} \frac{4}{D} \frac{5}{E}$.

U.S. Consulate General,

Shanghai, July 5th 1892 -

I hereby approve
the foregoing nominations of David M^c Kaffie,
for Vice Consul, and Chinn Poy Woo, for
Deputy Consul.

J. A. Leonard,
Consul General.

June 14
1892

It is hereby mutually agreed by and between Charles Seymour (Consul of the United States) at Canton, and David MacHaffie of Canton, China, that we now request the Department of State to cause the appointment of said David MacHaffie to the Office of Vice Consul at this Consulate; and that in the event of such appointment, and the absence or disability of the Consul for a period exceeding ten days in any one quarter of a year, the said Vice Consul shall take charge of this Consulate, (with the assistance of a Deputy Consul to sign invoice certificates as provided for, agreement of this date by and between Charles Seymour and Chien Poy Woo.); and receive, for such service as Vice Consul, from Charles Seymour, as full compensation therefor, payment at the rate of one thousand dollars, American, per annum, besides one half of the unofficial fees during absence or disability of the Consul as above specified.

D. MacHaffie.

Charles Seymour

Seal

Seal

June 14
1892

It is hereby mutually agreed by and between the undersigned Consul Seymour, (Consul of the United States of America) at Canton, China; and Chiu Poy Woo, (Interpreter at this Consulate); that they now request the (Department of State, United States, to appoint the said Chiu Poy Woo to the office of (Deputy Consul at this Consulate, for the sole purpose of enabling him to sign invoice certificates and collect the prescribed fees for the same, when so requested by the Consul or Vice Consul in charge of said Consulate; in full compensation for which service, Chiu Poy Woo shall receive from said Consul or Vice Consul a sum equal to a commission of two and a half per cent on the amount of fees received for certificates so signed; and duly accounted for to said Consul or Vice Consul, at the end of each week in which such service shall have been rendered by said Deputy Consul; besides one half of the unofficial fees during Consul's absence.

Chiu Poy Woo.
Charles Seymour

Seal

Seal



*Con. Bureau
Disapprove.
W.B.W.*

No. 230

Consulate of the United States, Canton,
Aug 21st, 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Request for leave of absence.

Ans. Aug 13/92

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 230

Consulate of the United States.

June 21st, 1892.

Honorable

Wm. F. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that the Department of State will kindly grant to me leave of absence for sixty days, to enable me to have the benefit of a change of climate, by sea voyage to and from Japan; with a few weeks' sojourn in the highlands of that country; after several years of close application to my official duties in Canton.

I am, Sir,

Dear Madam's Servant,

Charles Seymour

U. S. Consulate General

M. A. Consul

Shanghai, June 27 1892.

I hereby approve the foregoing application. There is no consul better entitled to a leave of absence than Consul Seymour.

J. A. Leonard,
Consul General,



Read with
interest.
88

No. 231

Consulate of the United States,

June 28th, 1892.

ack.
Aug 18/92

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Lekin taxes or dues.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 231

Consulate of the United States.

June 28th, 1892.

Honorable *Wm. D. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

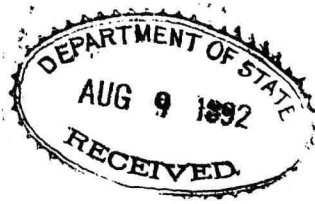
I have the honor to inform you that at "Fut Shan", about eleven miles southwest from Canton, there has been, during the past ten days, serious trouble, growing out of extortions and exactions of local officials; and resulting in organized resistance on the part of the people, for the correction of abuses by the authorities. For "combustions and strikes" the Chinese possess wonderful qualifications. Nearly all of the trades simultaneously stopped work; and all means of transportation between Fut Shan and Canton were promptly suspended; the street-gates were closed; and everything of a business nature stopped.

2/

The literary and ruling 'feeling' were sent to the Vicary in Canton to report previous, and the Vicary referred them to a Board of high officials, (among whom is the Chinese Superintendent of Canton), for negotiations and adjustment.

The people demand a specific schedule of Latin taxes or dues, beyond which no encroachment or exaction shall be made by Latin officials.

At this point of adjustment the two parties have nearly come; and the removal of the obnoxious Latin officials from public service is proclaimed officially. Some location near Tat-shan is as populous as Liverpool or Glasgow, or Shanghai (approx. 1,200,000) with extensive cotton, iron and other metal works, paper mills, etc. and during the past week it was for some days an open question whether the combination of the trade and people (especially as it seemed ^{probably from Tat-shan to Canton}) of the densely populated country about Tat-shan, and between it and Canton would or would not become too powerful for the officials to control; as the Latin officials at Tat-shan fled from the popular ^{San, Shi, San Shih-tai Shih-tai} ^{Chung Tey-mo} ¹⁹¹²



file

No. 232

Consulate of the United States, *Canton.*
June 30th, 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the **Department of State.**

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Account, Vouchers and Returns
for Quarter ended June 30 1892*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Inclosures Nos 1 @ 8

No. 232

Consulate of the United States.

June 30th, 1896.

Honorable

Wm. D. Houston

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith account, vouchers, and returns, from this Consulate, for the Quarter ended this day, as per subjoined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

List of inclosures viz:

1. Account & vouchers.
2. Digest of Chinese Books.
3. Arrivals & Departures, etc.
4. Return of Exports.
5. Record of Material Prices.
6. Fees for fiscal year.
7. Report of L. Hye's Estate.
8. Summary of Business.



No. 233

Aug 25/92

Consulate of the United States,

Director

July 4th, 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Supplementary Account, with
Vouchers from Customs Agency.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Mr. (Lair)

Please say the account
is approved, but not ~~to~~ to
draw for the same, as the
appropriation out of which
it is paid is exhausted -
He will be authorized to
draw when Congress provides
for it -
Rusty

Honorable

Wm. D. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith account and vouchers for disbursements made at the U. S. Consular Agency in Canton & Quarter ended December 31st 1891. These vouchers only reached here this day, owing to some misarrangement or delay of Coast mails by cargo ship. The Consular Agent had money of mine in his hands to defray expenses, et cetera, and did not understand that vouchers should be sent to the Department.

Hoping the amount (\$2.43) will be approved, and that I may be authorized to draw for the same in next (this) quarter's settlement, I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

Wm. D. Wharton

One inclosure in 3 sets vouchers with account in duplicate

United States Consulate.
July 4. 1892.

ring the prevalent attempts of
evil disposed Chinese to incite the
opulace to outrages by circulating
pamphlets & reports of foreigners mul-
tating native children, the U.S.
Consular Agent at Suatow telegraph-
ed to the Taitai of the District
(22 miles distant) -

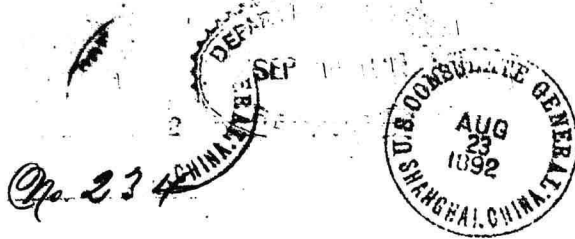
"I have just heard that in
Hoping (or Haoyang) strangers
are spreading reports that they
have been hired by foreigners
to dig out children's eyes and
hearts with the intention of
exciting people's mind. I
feel it my duty to request
you to attend immediately to
the matter."



ing the prevalent attempt
 to induce Chinese to incite the
 Chinese to outrage by circulating
 rumors & reports of foreigners
 mutilating native children,
 the U.S. Consul Agent at Swatow
 telegraphed to the Consul of the
 District (22 miles distant) -

"I have just heard that in
 Hoping (a Haoyang) strangers
 are spreading reports that they
 have been hired by foreigners
 to dig out children's eyes and
 hearts with the intention of
 exciting people's minds. I feel
 it my duty to request you to
 attend immediately to the matter.

M. Seaman



Consulate of the United States, *Canton,*
August 18th, 1892

M^r. Seymour

To the Department of State.

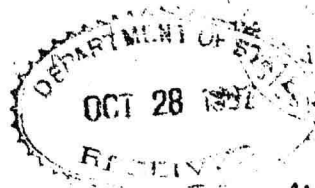
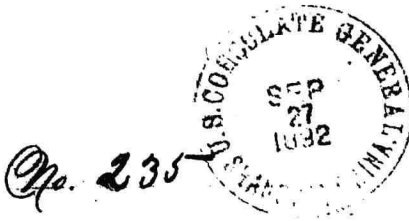
SUBJECT:

Commerce

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Imports of European and American
products into China and other
Eastern Countries.*

(Files for publication)



*Comme au Bureau
Laffrey
noningthore
OBW*

Consulate of the United States,

September 13th, 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Vice Consul at Canton.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 235

Consulate of the United States.

September 13th, 1892.

Honorable

Wm. D. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that David MacKeffie, who was nominated in my dispatch No. 229, dated June 14th 1892, for Vice Consul at Canton, China, is removing to Boston, and cannot, for that reason enter upon the duties of such office.

After careful consultation with leading American residents, there seems to be no better choice for Vice Consul of the United States at Canton, than that of a most estimable ^{Englishman} gentleman, George Disraeli Pearson, (a native of China ^{son of British parents} although a British subject,) who is the head of the long established and much

respected firm of Messrs Pearson and Company at Canton; Commission Agents and Merchants, engaged in tea trade with Europe; and as Agents for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Hong Kong, Canton and Swatow Navigation Company; and several large and well-known Steamship Lines (including the Northern Pacific R.R. & S. Company), and Insurance Companies.

Mr Pearson is son-in-law of Rev Dr. A. P. Happer, the veteran American Missionary in China (1844-1891). He was prevailed upon to consent to act as Vice Consul by a delegation of American residents today, including Mr T. B. Cunningham, Rev Dr Benjamin C. Henry, and myself.

I therefore nominate him for Vice Consul of the United States at Canton, China, and by his consent herewith ^{his consent and agreement}

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
McGowan

Septem
13. 1892

It is hereby mutually agreed by and between
Charles Seymour (Consul of the United States)
at Canton, China, and George Dignell Pearson
of Canton, China, that we now request the
(Department of State, United States, to cause the
appointment of said George Dignell Pearson to the
Office of Vice Consul of the United States at Canton,
China; and that in the event of appointment as
above reported, the absence or disability of
Consul Seymour for a period exceeding ten days
in any quarter of the year or a year, the said
Vice Consul Pearson shall take charge of this
Consulate (with the assistance of a Deputy
Consul as provided for by agreement made
by and between Charles Seymour and Ching
Py Hoo.); and receive for such service as Vice
Consul from Consul Charles Seymour, as
full compensation therefor, payment at the
rate of one thousand dollars, Mexican,
per annum, besides one half of the
notarial fees during the absence or
disability of Consul.

Charles Seymour

Seal

George Dignell Pearson

Seal

Form
no. 4

Know all men by these presents that
we, George Digswell Pearson, of
Canton, China, principal, and
Theodor Bliss Cunningham, of
Canton, China, and Charles
Seymour, of Canton, China,
sureties, are held and firmly bound
to the United States of America
in the sum of two thousand dollars,
money of the said United States,
to the payment whereof we bind ourselves,
jointly and severally, our joint and several
heirs, executors, and administrators.

Witness our hands and seals, this thirteenth
day of September, 1892, _____

The condition of this obligation is such,
that if the above bounden George Digswell Pearson,
appointed Vice Consul of the United States at
Canton, China, shall truly and faithfully
discharge the duties of ^{his} said office according to law,
and also shall truly and faithfully account for,
pay over, and deliver up all moneys, goods,
effects, books, papers, and other property
which shall come to the hands of the
(said)

said George Dismell Pearson, or to
the hands of any person for his use as such
Vice Consul, under any law now or hereafter
enacted, and faithfully perform all other
duties now or hereafter lawfully imposed
upon him as such Vice Consul, then this
obligation to be void; otherwise to remain
in full force.

George Dismell Pearson



Thos den Bliss Cunningham.



Charles Seymour



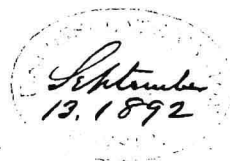
Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of
Edmund Thomas Bond.

Canton

Edwin Alfred Stanton

Canton ^{China}

Dated this thirtieth day of September, 1892,
at Canton, China.



I, Charles Seymour, Consul of the
United States of America, at Canton,
China, hereby certify that the above
sureties are citizens of the United
(States)

States, and are sufficient to pay the
penalty of the Bond (forgoing) signed by
George Disraeli Pearson, as principal,
and by Heddon Bliss Cunningham
and Charles Seymour, as sureties.

Charles Seymour
W. Seymour



No. 236



file

Consulate of the United States,
Canton Sept 30th, 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Account, Vouchers, & Returns
for Quarter ended Sept 30. 1892*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 236

Consulate of the United States.

September 20th 1892.

Honorable

Wm. D. Houston

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Account, Vouchers, and Returns, from this Consulate, for the Quarter ended this day, as per subjoined list of inclosures.

Yours, Sir,
Very obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
W. Consul

Inclosures viz:

1. Account & Vouchers.
2. Copy of Service Book.
3. Record of Medical Service.
4. Summary of Business.



No. 237

Navy

Consulate of the United States, *Quetta*;

Nov. 5th, 1892

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

The Eclipse of the Moon
Nov. 4, 1892

*To Navy with
original enclosure
December 22, 1892
R. C. Siegel
12/22/92*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 237

Consulate of the United States.

Nov. 5th 1892

Honorable

Mr. T. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith some particulars of the Eclipse of the Moon last night. It was a magnificent affair; and it came off exactly according to programme. I regret being not able to give more and better report for the information of scientific people who were unable to witness the Eclipse.

I am, Sir,
Dear Adm't Servant,

Charles Seymour
W. J. Fernald

one inclosure

Mr. St. Clair

File

No. 238



Consulate of the United States,
Canton, China, Nov. 23rd 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Nomination of Mr. Vice Consul, in dispatch
No. 235, dated September 13th 1892, is
withdrawn by desire of the nominator.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Reasons for withdrawal of
Mr. Fearon*

No. 238

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, China, November 13th 1892.

Honorable

Wm. D. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Mr George D. Fearon, who was nominated in my dispatch No. 235, dated September 13th 1892, for the Office of United States Vice Consul at Canton, China, has requested that his name shall be withdrawn; as it has come to his and my knowledge that the Merchants doing business with the United States are generally opposed to that Office being occupied by any Merchant, who might thus obtain advantage over business rivals and competitors in trade at Canton.

Upon learning that fact, I telegraphed
to Consul General Leonard at
Shanghai, October 12th 1892 —

"Merchants oppose merchant vice"

"Consul. Last nominee withdrawn."

"Request Department delay action."

Since Mr Pearson's withdrawal
which is deeply regretted by the
American residents, nothing has
transpired to enable me to make
any nomination for Mr. Vice Consul.

Possibly some American Missionary
may be induced to act as Vice Consul
since the Deputy Consul can sign
invoices; but the chief difficulty is owing
to the poor health of our excellent Inter-
preter and Deputy Consul, Mr. William B. [?],
which causes much uncertainty as to
ability for continuous labor — being susceptible
to weather changes, by means of a bad cough,
which sometimes assumes a serious character.

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul



*Con. Bureau
ack office
W. F. W.
JL*

Consulate of the United States,
Canton, China, Nov. 23rd 1892.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Ac Reg No. 150, of August 13th 1892,
granting 60 days leave of absence; of which
Consul Seymour could not avail himself.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 239

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, China, November 23rd, 1892.

Honorable

Wm. J. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge having received dispatch numbered 150, dated August 13th 1892, kindly putting me leave of absence for sixty days, as I requested; but owing to the fact that the Commission of the U.S. Deputy Consul did not reach Canton until today; and also that no arrangements could be made for a Vice Consul; I deemed it proper to remain at my post and attend to business.

I am, Sir, y

Very Respectfully

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul



No. 240

conular But
ack & fee
file
ABW

Consulate of the United States,
Canton, China, November 23rd, 1872.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

The publication, by English and Chinese
newspapers in China and Hong Kong,
of the Memorial of Chinese in the United States,
to the Imperial Government of China.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Specification of the privs and
of Chinese residents in America.

No. 240

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, China, November 23rd 1892.

Honorable

Wm. D. Phanton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith a published translation ^{1/A}
of the Memoire of Chinese
residents in the United States of
America to the Imperial Govern-
ment of China; which has recently
been extensively published by the
Chinese and English newspapers
along the Chinese Coast; and is
receiving much attention as a
statement of Chinese grievances.
As nearly all of the Chinese
who went to America are natives of
Kwangtung Province, Canton hears
their grievances with greater interest
than other localities.

As the political campaign of 1892 is over, perhaps it may be the memory to "stir up" the Chinese residents in America for several years to come; but if agitators insist upon worrying them, or provoking China into retaliation or a retaliatory policy, they will continue to do mischief, by placing Americans at a disadvantage as compared with Europeans, in regard to employment of talent and importation of ^{materials} machinery, required for military, naval, railway, ^{mining} and educational operations, which foreigners must supply for developing the resources of China.

Respectfully placing the English version of the Memorial in your hands, with the fact of its general publicity in China,

Yours, Sir,

Very Respected Servant

Charles Seymour

M. House

one inclosure

THE CHINESE IN THE UNITED STATES.

The following is the petition of the San Francisco guild, addressed to the Ministers of the T'angli Yamèn on behalf of the Chinese in the United States:—

Whereas the U.S. Government has enacted an unjust law to exclude the Chinese, we beg your Excellencies to invite Minister Denby into counsel with you and to remonstrate with him on the injustice of the new law, and at the same time to present a formal protest to the U.S. Government. In the middle part of the second moon of the current year Congress introduced a bill for the absolute exclusion of the Chinese. The various authorities who have at heart the well-being of their people across the seas informed us of the goodwill of our Government towards us, and at the same time gave repeated instructions to the Minister at Washington to strongly protest against the Act. And it was by the protests then made that the intimidating clamours of the people and their boisterous counsels on the subject were stopped, and finally the bill declared null. All this was effected through the graciousness of our authorities to whom we feel deeply and sincerely grateful. The old restriction bill was then again put into force, with the insertion of the registration provision in it. Our Minister, regarding this as being a violation of the treaty, and at the same time a humiliating law for the Chinese to be placed under, protested to the Foreign Office. But his remonstrances were not heeded by the latter, and no reply was given to his repeated addresses. Since the 1st of September this law has been in force. The U.S. authorities everywhere put out proclamations ordering us to get certificates, and notifying that should we refuse to obey this law, and fail to provide ourselves with the certificates before the expiration of the time allowed, we should be imprisoned for one year, and after serving this sentence be deported back to China. The pen is inadequate to describe the innumerable harms this law will inflict upon us. We beg to only pick out some of the worst, and we present them to your Excellencies' notice:—

1.—Though the registration provision affects especially the coolies, as the coolies and merchants wear the same kind of clothing, the authorities have no way of distinguishing the one from the other. The latter not being provided with the certificate, when encountered, will of course be cast into prison. The law requires that American citizens must be obtained as witnesses, before the merchant can be released. But should he fail to get the witnesses, he will not only be imprisoned but also be deported. This certainly will be most hurtful to merchants.

2.—Merchants are often required by their business to go about from place to place, and sometimes to go from one State to another; and while in a strange State, should they be encountered by the American officials, they being strangers there would not be able to get any one to testify for them, and the result would be that they would go to prison.

3.—In recent years the police and others have made a practice of entering our houses or stopping us on the streets, under pretext of making examinations. If they discover any one to have done anything in the least out of the way, then such persons are punished. In some cases the offenders are imprisoned, while others guilty of slight offences are fined. Now that this registration law is being put into operation we fear the coolies will not escape a good deal of harsh persecution. It is necessary to carry the certificate everywhere one goes, but as time wears on, it is quite likely that the document may become destroyed or be lost. Now, to replace it would be a matter of the greatest difficulty; but should this again be lost, suspicion would be roused, and there could be no hope of replacing it. In the event of not obtaining another certificate, the coolie would be put in gaol and then be deported.

4.—According to the registration provisions each Chinaman getting himself registered must get two respectable persons to be witnesses for him. Chinese being held untrustworthy, they cannot be witnesses, hence it is amongst the Americans that we have to look for our witnesses. Chinese labourers do not understand English or have acquaintances among the Americans; it is therefore a matter of serious difficulty for them to get people to be their witnesses.

5.—The law only recognises those who have shares in the business houses as merchants, all others being regarded as belonging to the category of coolies. If this is to apply to agents, salesmen, and cashiers of the firms, it is certainly too harsh, and would be most difficult for all to conform to.

6.—In cases wherein a Chinaman is concerned the American officials are usually too hypercritical. Under the pretext of examining certificates, Chinese merchants, as well as coolies, would be subject to tyrannical persecution. Even if one does not suffer in other ways, by bringing such cases into court large sums of money would have to be spent in paying lawyers and defraying court fees.

According to the U.S. law only the authors of the most serious criminal cases are not allowed to be released on bail; all others can avail themselves of this privilege. This new law provides that Chinese detained for examination shall not be released on bail. Recently travelling merchants have been detained and treated most cruelly. This country has never before had any law denying the people the right of bail; even in grand criminal cases the offender can obtain release by giving bail; that innocent people should be denied this right is certainly a piece of gross injustice. Office-seekers make it their policy to oppress the Chinese in order to catch the votes of the labouring classes, and by this means they get their posts, consequently the talk of oppressing Chinese is becoming more and more general. But just and upright statesmen pronounce this bill as being unconstitutional. That this Act is only passed against the Chinese alone, and not for other people, is most unjust, and contrary to treaty agreements. We are told that there are many debateable points; and we will engage lawyers to go to Washington and argue the case in the Supreme Court of the United States, which has the power of nullifying the Act.

The Chinese are willing to take punishment without murmur in order to resist this unjust Act. It is to be hoped that your Excellencies will represent the case to Minister Denby, and protest to the U.S. Government. At the opening of the session of Congress next December, we beg that Minister Tsai be instructed to convey the protest to the Foreign Department, and ask the same to transmit the protest to the two Houses, saying that China will not consent to have this bill passed upon her in direct violation of the treaty between the two countries.—Translated by N. C. Daily News.

Not a resignation
8/1 noted

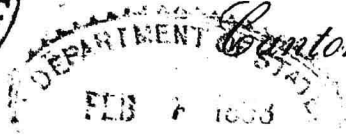
Consular Bure

No. 241



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, Decr 29th 1898



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Resignation of Deputy Consul

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Inclosing Copies of correspondence marked
1/A and 2/B.

No. *241*

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, *December 29th 1894*

Honorable *J. M. T. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy
of a letter of this date from *Chaim Coy Woo*, $\frac{1}{A}$
in which he resigns the office of Deputy Consul
at Canton, for reasons which are therein stated.

I also inclose copy of my reply to *Mr Chaim*, $\frac{2}{B}$
who is our excellent Interpreter, and desire to
avoid giving his countrymen any occasion
for misunderstanding as to his official duties
and functions.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant

Charles Leonard
N. S. French

2 inclosures
 $\frac{1}{A} + \frac{2}{B}$

Copy

1
A

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, China, December 29, 1892.

Charles Seymour, Esquire,

U.S. Consul,

Canton, China.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will convey to the Department of State in Washington, D.C. my sincere thanks for the honor of a Commission as Deputy Consul of the United States under date of 25th day of February 1889, and bearing the signature of Honorable T. F. Mayard as Secretary of State.

Being the Interpreter at this Consulate, and desiring to continue as such, I hereby resign the office of Deputy Consul, to prevent the possibility of any misunderstanding as to the nature of my official functions; and request you will so inform the Department of State and the U.S. Legation.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
(signed) Chinn Bay Woo

2
B

Copy.

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, China, December 29, 1892

Mr. Chinn Poy Woo,

Canton, China.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date, in which you tender your resignation of the office of Deputy Consul of the United States at Canton, China, for which a Commission was signed by Hon. T. F. Bayard, Secretary of State, under date of February 25th 1889.

Appreciating the reason assigned by you for resigning the office of Deputy Consul, to prevent the possibility of any misunderstanding among your countrymen as to the nature of your official functions, which you desire to be those of Interpreter as heretofore, and assisting in clerical duties, I shall comply with your request; and convey to the Department of State, and to the United States Legation, copies of your letter of this date; and hereby accept your resignation of the office of Deputy Consul, so far as I am authorized to do so.

With best wishes, and highest esteem,

I am, Sir, Yours very truly,

(signed) Charles Seymour,

U.S. Consul,

Canton, China.

file

242



Consulate of the United States,



anton, Dec. 31st 1892

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Account, Vouchers & Returns
for month ended Dec 31st 1892.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Eight enclosures as per list.

No. 242

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, Dec. 31st 1892.

Honorable *Wm. D. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith account, vouchers, and returns, from this Consulate, for the quarter ending this day, as per ~~subjoined~~ list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
W. D. Wharton

List of inclosures viz

1. Account with Vouchers
2. Digest of Service Book
3. Arrival & Dep. of Am Vessels
4. Record of Notarial Services
5. Summary of Consular Business
6. Names of Employees
7. List of Dispatches 1892
8. Register of Am Residents

No.

243



Consulate of the United States,

Canton,

February 24th 1893

Direct. 10. 11. 1895.

Ward's Hair
April 25th 1895
H. J.

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

S U B J E C T:

Chinese Exhibits at the
1892 World's Columbian Exposition.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

A fair and creditable representation
of the skill and industry of China
sewed for and shipped to the Fair at
Chicago.

No. *243*

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, February 24th 1893

Honorable *Geo. T. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that there will be a fair and creditable representation of the skill and industry of China at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, notwithstanding the indifference of the Chinese Government or officials.

A syndicate of wealthy Chinese merchants was organized under the name of "Chuen Lun Tee" in Canton, whose success at European Expositions

(was

27

so will know as to inspire confidence that he would take to Chicago a valuable and desirable variety of Chinese exhibits.

Giving you considerable personal attention to this matter, at the request of the Chief of the Foreign Department of the World Columbian Exposition, Walker Tearn, Esquire, of Chicago, I have no hesitation in stating that Chinese skill and industry will be well represented.

It is very gratifying to be able to give this assurance, after so many discouragements and obstacles were encountered by Prof. Hitchcock, of the Smithsonian Institute, and other Commissioners from the United States, as to leave little or no prospect of success.

3
The negotiations with the Chinese merchants began at a gathering of about forty of them at this point, where views of the Exposition buildings, explanations of the elaborate plans and arrangements, with requirements for exhibits and exhibitors, were followed by hospitalities which had a tendency to assure them of good and fair treatment as participants in the great of the World's International Exposition.

In their own peculiar and practical ways they concentrated their efforts upon one syndicate, which involves the least possible friction in regard to restrictions about Chinese entering the United States.

Per "Pere" ex Hong Kong 28th Jan.
140 pkgs were shipped via San Francisco to the Exposition in Chicago by "Shun Sun Kee"; and per "Oceanic" on 7th February were sent 50 pkgs; and per "S. Gaelic" leaving March 2nd there will be
(Another)

another shipment of the same amounting to 136 PKgs; and the last and final shipment of Exhibits will go per "S. S. China", leaving March 21st for San Francisco, when "Chun Quankai" with his Assistant will go to Chicago.

The total exhibits of Chun Quankai will be about 400 PKgs in all embracing a valuable and choice variety of Chinese manufactures and products.

I respectfully request that instructions may be issued to the Custom House officials at San Francisco to know Chun Quankai, upon his arrival there per S. S. China, about 13th April, that a respectable Chinese Merchant, representing an influential body of Chinese merchants, while going to America upon a laudable and praiseworthy mission, without much, if any, encouragement from the Government of China is treated with courtesy; and that he may be granted comfortable facilities, without detention, in reaching Chicago before

(Spring)

5

opening of the Exposition; and he desires to see that his Agents have made all needed preparations for his Exhibits.

In addition to these exhibits from the Canton Syndicate of "Chun Quen Kee", there will be a large variety of porcelain exhibits from Kienking, which went via Canada to Chicago.

There will also be from Foochow some elaborate specimens of bird wooden mantles; and from Hong Kong about half a dozen sets of models of Chinese boats and other means of transportation, collected by the U.S. Consul at that port.

I have also rendered some assistance to a Company of Russian and Chinese gentlemen who are sending to the Chicago Exposition the paraphernalia and outfit for a Chinese Theatre, Joss House, &c. as the Agent brought excellent credentials from the U.S. and Exposition Officials; but I cannot and shall not have anything to do with the talent which

67

is being secured for the proposed
 "Theatre" and "Luncheon", or the
 "Chinese Village", at Chicago.
 Possibly this branch of the
 "Chinese exhibits" will draw
 careful scrutiny.

Hoping that what has
 been done here to promote exhibits
 of Chinese skill and industry at
 Chicago may have the approval
 of the Department of State;

Yours, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour.
 A. S. Gould

No. 244



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, February 25th 1893



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Chinese offering money to obtain admission to the United States.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

The "Chinese village" scheme regarded by Chinese emigrants to the United States as a means of admission.

May
to Director
April 25th 1893
#1

No. 244

Consulate of the United States,

Canton,

February 25-1893

Honorable *Wm. H. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

*I have the honor to state
that the remark on the last page
of my Dispatch No. 243, dated 24th
instant, to the effect that "possibly
careful scrutiny" should be exercised, in
regard to the introduction of Chinese into
the United States, by the Agents of the Company
now engaging natives of China to assist
in the exhibition of a Chinese Theatre,
Chinese Soap House, and Chinese Village,
in Chicago, was justified by*

2
a circumstance which came to my knowledge today, during an interview with a Chinese merchant who intends to be at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago. He said that he was offered seven hundred dollars if he would take with him two natives of China, who desired merely to obtain admission into the United States. This gentleman told them he would not take any one except his necessary assistants for any consideration. The two men who offered \$350. each for the privilege of going on his staff, merely for admission to the United States, then said they would go with the "Chinese village" exhibitors.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour

W. H. Cowan



No. 245



Copy to Treasury for Con- sideration.

411.

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, March 13th 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

*To Treasury.
with orig. enclosed.
May 3rd 1893. H.*

SUBJECT:

*Chinese "Export duty" expressed
in Consular Invoices*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Three inclosures viz:

<i>Letter of Decen & Co. Mch 8. 1893</i>	<i>1/A.</i>
<i>Invoice of Feb 27. 1893</i>	<i>1/B.</i>
<i>Invoice of Mch 2. 1893</i>	<i>1/C.</i>

No. 245

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, March 13th 1893

Honorable *Sam. J. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith a letter from a British
firm named Deacon and Company,
who set forth clearly and truly the
difficulties (if not impossibility) of com-
plying with requests of their cor-
respondents in Boston, Massachusetts,
(who have for many years sent
orders to Deacon & Company for
Chinese ware) touching requirements
of the Custom House at that Port.

1/A

2
The difficulty of compliance with the Custom House requirements in the United States, as to deduction of the Chinese export duty from the price of each item of goods arrived by the invoice for a shipment of Chinamen, arises from the peculiar manner in which the export duty on Chinamen is collected or levied in China - viz: on the weight instead of on the value of the exports - or to be definite "four mace and five candarines per picul" for "Coarse", and "nine mace per picul" for "Fine Chinamen".

The exports are weighed in bulk by party, and the only way in which merchants can honestly and truthfully make the deduction of "Export duty" is to state the gross sum paid in one item.

Even with the two descriptions of "Coarse" and "Fine", the relative weights and values cannot be accurately computed by a percentage.

3

In like manner the export duty in silk and silk goods in Chinese custom House is ascertained by weight, with no regard to the value of the goods.

This system of weights is generally resorted to in China, as the most effective method of securing equity; and is so ridiculously at variance with actual valuation of commodities of trade as to make it impossible to apply ordinary rules of trade in other countries. Even wood for fuel is bought and sold in China by weight like Coal, and with no reference to measurement or quality.

The "picul" consists of one hundred "Catties".
The "Catty" is equal to one and a third pounds.
So a picul is equal to 133 1/3 pounds.
The "mace" is equal to nearly 15 cents Mexican, or 10 cents gold, and the "Candarine" is worth about one cent U.S. - ten Candarines make one mace.

I respectfully transmit the letter of Messrs. Deane & Company, with Copies of the last two invoices of Chinese goods sent by them to Boston Massachusetts;

2/B

3/C

4 /
and would suggest that they may be sent to United States Treasury Department, with a copy of this dispatch, for the purpose of having some modification of the requirements herein mentioned as to deductions, so that merchants may lawfully and truly show in their invoices, what amount was actually paid as 'Export Duty' on goods described in "Consular Invoices" for the Custom Houses of the United States.

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant,

Charles Leonard
A. S. Leonard

Three inclosures viz:
1/4 Letter of Deacon & Co.
2/5 Copy of Invoice Feb 27/93
3/6 Copy of Invoice Feb 27/93



file

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 31st 1893.



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Account, Musters & Returns
for Quarter Ended March 31, 1893.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Inclosures as stated
Nos 1 to 4*

No. *L 201*

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China March 3rd 1897

Honorable *Wm. A. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Account, Vouchers, and returns from this Consulate for the quarter ended this day, as per subjoined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully

Charles Seymour

W. A. Wharton

List of inclosures viz:

- 1. Account with Vouchers.*
- 2. Digest of Invoice Book.*
- 3. Record of Notarial Services.*
- 4. Summary of Business.*

(Form No. 108.)

SUMMARY of business at the United States Consulate at Canton, China.

during the quarter ended *March 31.* 189*3.*

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS.

Vessels in port from last quarter,

Vessels arriving during present quarter,

Vessels departing,

Vessels remaining in port,

Tonnage arriving,

Tonnage departing,

Fees received, \$

Expenses, including salary, \$

MOVEMENT OF SEAMEN.

Seamen in port from last quarter,

Seamen arriving,

Seamen shipped,

Seamen deceased,

Seamen discharged,

Seamen deserted,

Seamen departed,

Seamen in port,

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT CANTON, CHINA.

March 31. 189*3.*

[SEAL.]

Charles Seymour
U. S. Consul.

[THIS RETURN TO BE SENT, AT END OF EACH QUARTER, TO THE FIFTH AUDITOR,
WITH ACCOUNT FOR SALARY AND FEES.]

(Form No. 103.)

SUMMARY of business at the United States Consulate Agency at Swatow, China
during the quarter ended 31. March, 1893.

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS.

Vessels in port from last quarter, *none*
Vessels arriving during present quarter, *Emma T. Crowell of Seasport*
Vessels departing, *Emma T. Crowell of Seasport*
Vessels remaining in port, *none*
Tonnage arriving, *1087*
Tonnage departing, *1087*
Fees received, \$ *nil*
Expenses, including salary, \$

MOVEMENT OF SEAMEN.

Seamen in port from last quarter,
Seamen arriving,
Seamen shipped,
Seamen deceased,
Seamen discharged,
Seamen deserted,
Seamen departed,
Seamen in port,

Nil.

UNITED STATES Consulate Agency AT Swatow, China
31. March

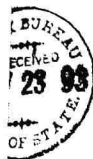
[SEAL.]



W. A. Streich
U. S. Consular Agent.

[THIS RETURN TO BE SENT, AT END OF EACH QUARTER, TO THE FIFTH AUDITOR,
WITH ACCOUNT FOR SALARY AND FEES.]

No. *247*



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, *April 5th 1893*

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Chinese passengers to
the United States*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Levy
To Secretary
May 26th 1893
H.

No. 247

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, April 5th 1893

Honorable *Genl. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt, on the 3rd instant,
of your dispatch, No. 155, dated
18th February, 1893, with inclosures
from the Treasury Department dated
15th February and from Special Agent
Montgomery dated March 9th 1893,
in regard to alleged attempts to evade
the Chinese Exclusion Act by securing
to the United States Chinese
persons, who are represented as
(Members)

27

Members of a Theatrical Company
intending to give performances
during the Columbian Exposition.

All passengers from Southern
China to America and Europe
embark on ships at Hong Kong,
and as no particulars are pub-
lished as to the number of Chinese
passengers going from or arriving at
that Port, it is not easy to get esti-
mate facts, when there is a purpose
to conceal them from the public;
as is the case when rival interests
are trying to outdo one another
in the acquisition of a profitable branch
of business. However the fact is
known that there has recently been
a revival of the Chinese passenger
traffic between China and America.

(R3)

3

By reference to the closing paragraph of my dispatch No. 243, dated February 24th 1883, and to my No. 244 of the following day, it will be seen that I took the liberty to intimate that scrutiny should be applied to the persons seeking admission to the United States under cover of the Chinese Master, Joss House, and Village schemes; and since the receipt of your No. 158, I have diligently investigated matters, and am surprised to find that two or more rival exhibition Companies have been engaged in sending off large numbers of Chinese to America, via Vancouver, Tacoma, and San Francisco.

Something like a Coolie traffic appears to be going on, with rivalry between Steamships and railways of Canada and the United States, for the carrying trade.

Accordingly I telegraphed today to Mr. Consul General Shann, Shanghai,

(a.)

47

As follows: "Wire Department
"Thousand Chinese under rival
"Exhibition Companies arrive
"next week Vancouver, Tacoma,
"Trico. Others follow. Scrutiny
"suggested."

The S. S. "Empress of Japan"
left Hong Kong 22nd March, went
Vancouver 12th April, took
out one thousand Chinese, the
greater part of whom will probably
push for Chicago; and the S. S.
"Mogul" took from Hong Kong about
16th March some Chinese (said
to be about fifty) for Chicago, and
will be due at Tacoma about the
middle of this month (April); and
the S. S. "China" took about
two hundred and forty for Chicago,
Chinese, who are supplied with iden-
tification papers.

On the "China" is a highly
respectable Chinese merchant,
named "Chun Lun Kee", who
(is)

is the principal Exhibitor of Chinese manufactures at the Columbia Exposition.

He is accompanied by his five assistants, who are indispensable for his business.

I cannot vouch for any others except "Shun Lun Kee" and his five assistants.

The S.S. "Belgie" left Hong Kong for San Francisco March 30th with two hundred and eighteen men and two women (all Chinese) for Chicago.

The S.S. "Victoria" left Hong Kong 4th April for Tacoma, and took about one hundred and fifty Chinese for Chicago.

And so the business seems to be flourishing. So far as I can learn the Agent of the Steamships to San Francisco is observing greatest care to (prevent)

6

prevent Chinese passengers without certificates from attempting to obtain illegal admission to the United States; and the usual requirement of the Agency is a deposit of passage money for both ways (going and returning).

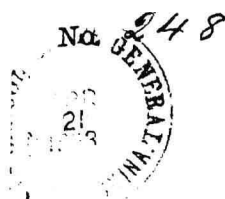
As United States Consuls in China are not invested with authority to act in regard to the Chinese passenger traffic, which is beyond their observation and control, I regret being unable to supply you with more valuable information on the subject.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour
W. J. Brown

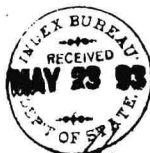
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*To Treaty -
May 26th, 1893. H.*



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, April 15th 1893



W. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Proclamation against Chinese
emigration to Mexico.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Chinese authorities forbid
any one to engage or entice
Chinamen to go to Mexico.
China has no treaty with Mexico.
Chinamen smuggled across the
frontier into the United States
unlawfully. Such acts prohibited.*

No. 248

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, China, April 15th 1893

Honorable Mr. T. Wharton

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, during this week, Proclamations have been posted on the walls, and published in the three native daily newspapers, in Canton, by the Chinese Authorities, against emigration of Chinese to Mexico; and forbidding any one to engage or induce Chinese to go to Mexico. This edict seems to be issued by order of the Imperial Government of China; in compliance with memorials from the Chinese fields in the United States.

(Witness)

2/

whose complaints represent that large numbers of Chinese are smuggled from Mexico across the frontier into the United States; which excites and provokes Americans to resort to stringent legislation against Chinese residents.

The Proclamation states that China has no Treaty with Mexico. It is further stated that after the Chinese laborers shall have aided in building Mexican railways, Mexicans will drive Chinese out of Mexico, as was the case in the United States. Mexico is also designated as a land of earthquakes, and therefore is undesirable as a place of residence.

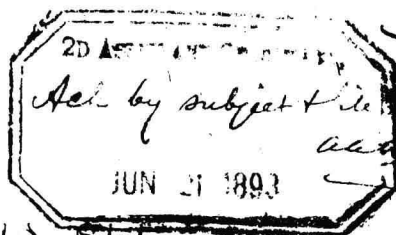
It is important as an assumption that Chinese emigration to Mexico practically results in illegal smuggling of Chinamen into the United States.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant.

Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul

No.

249



*Acckd
Apr 193*

Consulate of the United States,



Canton, April 15th 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Chinese press advocating
retaliation against Americans.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 2499

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, April 15th 1893

Honorable *Amos F. Wharton*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the native press in Shanghai and Canton seem to be giving earnest attention to alleged wrongs of Chinese in the United States, and the advocacy of retaliation against American residents in China.

A lengthy editorial article of that nature appeared on the 12th instant in one of the three daily native newspapers in Canton.

9

The article was first published in the Chinese newspaper, Shen Bao, in Shanghai, although purporting to be an original article of the Canton paper. Whether this is the work of officials who are resorting to this method of creating anti-American feeling among the reading portion of the Chinese population, I cannot say; but there seems to have been in various parts of the interior something like concerted action among the Chinese against native Christians, by acts of robbery and persecution during the past winter.

The native paper which published the lengthy anti-American article in Canton on the 12th inst., yesterday said: "The article on the ill-treatment of Chinese by Americans published yesterday was more or less one-sided; and we are in

3

"possession of another article, which, for"
 "want of space, is deferred."

There are few or no Chinese from Northern or Central China in the United States.

Nearly all of the emigrants from China to America and Australia must from this Province of Kwangtung.

Consequently whenever there is any commotion or irritability among Chinese about alleged wrongs of Chinamen in the United States, the seat or center of wrath is at and about Canton; and the excitement is usually caused by hot reports cabled or mailed from the Chinese fields in America to similar bodies in Hong Kong and Canton, which reports are given to the press, or displayed by placards on the streets.

By keeping watch of such movements, and getting the attention of the Chinese authorities to the suppression of agitation which has a mischievous appearance or tendency, serious results are averted. In like manner, local disturbances, which jeopardize American (and any foreign) interests, whether commercial or religious, are usually successfully treated.

4

As evidence of the fact that the Chinese Officials at Canton are on good and friendly terms with this Consulate, it may not be improper to mention that during this week six of the Chinese Officials have sent to me their annual contributions, amounting to about three hundred dollars, for the Medical Mission Hospital, (established by Americans more than half a century ago, and under the care of American physicians and surgeons in connection with American Missions in China), and that the total annual contributions of the Chinese Officials, for the past seven or eight years, sent through this Consulate to that Hospital, range from seven hundred to one thousand dollars, as the result of friendly interchange of views in regard to the beneficence of that Institution.

With the Missionaries and merchants of all denominations and nationalities on the alert as to any friction or disturbance, near or remote; and with a friendly relation carefully maintained with the Chinese Authorities, I feel assured that, even with an occasional

5
exhibition of anti-foreign wrath among
the Chinese, Southern China may
be spared from such scenes as occurred
in Central China during the past few years;
notwithstanding the abundance of turbulent
elements seeking opportunities for mischief.
I do not therefore anticipate any serious
results from the publications mentioned.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
Consul

No. 250



Consulate of the United States,



Canton, China, May 23rd 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Report on Cotton growing
and consumption in Kwangtung, China

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Report marked *A*.

Best means to secure Asiatic or Chinese
markets for American productions.

No. 250

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, May 23rd 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith a Report on Cotton-growing
and Consumption in this Consular
District, composed of the Provinces
of Kwangtung and Kwangsi,
in Southern China; agreeably
with your Circular of April 4th
1893.

$\frac{1}{A}$

In connection with the Cotton
trade, I beg to refer you to my No. 176
dated August 7th 1889 on Cotton textiles;

27

which contains items that are strictly pertinent to the subject of increasing the traffic in Cotton goods manufactured in the United States of America for Chinese markets and consumption. Especially permit me to call your attention to the "Remarks" in the closing part of that dispatch, as to the best means of increasing sales of American goods in China.

In other dispatches on Commerce (such as my No. 234 dated August 18th 1892) I have endeavored to point out the necessity for a thorough and personal canvass of Chinese markets by trained and experienced salesmen who should represent a strong combination of American manufacturers and merchants.

3

Something of this kind seems necessary, in view of the fact that numerically British and other European interests are represented by merchants in Eastern Asia, who have intimate connections with extensive commercial establishments in Great Britain and other European countries, to such a degree that American commerce may be truly said to be almost without active promoters who can cope with the superior forces dealing in perhaps inferior goods.

American Merchants are scarce in China, as to be practically powerless to promote commerce on the actual merits of the goods sold in Chinese markets; and I see no way so effective in overcoming the potent influences mentioned in Commerce of the East as that

4/

A combined organization among American manufacturers and merchants, in keeping their goods before Chinese traders and consumers by the same process that is so successfully employed in America, through the direct action of experienced and persevering salesmen supplied with American goods, and a determined purpose to push American commerce in Asia on the merits of their excellence and superiority.

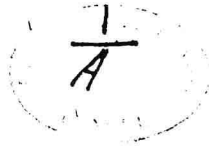
In this way, and this way only, can Americans reasonably expect to secure a fair portion of the Asiatic market for the productions of the United States.

I am, Sir,

Dear obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
 Consul

One inclosure



Report
on
"Cotton growing and Cotton Consumption"
in
The Consular District composed of
the
Provinces of Kwangtung and Kwang Si,
in
Southern China, during 1891.

1.
"Cotton Growing".
In the two Southern Provinces of Kwangtung and Kwang Si, which compose the Consular District of Canton, China, there is very little if any Cotton grown. The bulk of Cotton produced in China is grown in the Central portion of the Empire, and chiefly in the Valley of the Yangtze.

2.
"Cotton Consumption".
From the last published returns of the "Imperial Maritime Customs of China," (for 1891) which is the most reliable of the many Annual Reports of Customs.

2/

because it includes imports, exports, and traffic by native junks, which were formerly omitted from the custom reports; something like an accurate exhibit of imports and exports is obtained for this Consular District, by compiling the Customs returns of the Seven Custom Houses along the Coast of the Province of Kwangtung. Since 1859, until within the past two years, the Chinese Government had two systems for collection of revenue on imports and exports - viz: by the "Imperial Maritime Customs" (chiefly under the management of foreign officials, controlled by the Inspector General, Sir Robert Hart) which collected duties on imports and exports per foreign ships and ships of foreign type; and by "farming out" numerous districts to syndicates of Chinese speculators, who collected duties on imports and exports per native junks; of which no returns were required or published.

Imports of Yarn and Raw Cotton.

In 1891 this Consular District received, through the seven Custom Houses along the Coast of Kwangtung Province,

68,844,533 ^{lbs} Cotton Yarn valued at \$9,062,656 Gold.

Nearly all of this cotton yarn came from British India.

A small quantity of it came from Europe; and is designated as English, because it came through and from Hong Kong.

During 1891, the imports into this Province of Kwangtung of Raw Cotton amounted to 16,996,800 ^{lbs} valued at \$1,426,591 Gold. About three fourths of this raw cotton came from British India, and the remainder was native cotton produced in Central China—chiefly in the Valley of the Yangtze.

In these two classes of cotton yarn and Raw Cotton, Kwangtung received in value about \$10,500,000.00 (Gold) mostly from India, for manufacturing into native cloths and garments for home consumption and exportation to other parts of China, and to foreign countries where communities of Chinese require ^{such} cotton goods and garments. Mixtures are not in favor among Chinese; who prefer quilted cotton or silk to woolen goods or mixed materials for garments for winter.

Imports of Cotton Fabrics.

In 1891, Kwantung Province, through the seven Custom Houses along its Coast, received Cotton Fabrics as follows valued at (\$2,891,545.00 Gold) two millions, eight hundred and ninety one thousand, and five hundred and forty five dollars, N. Y. Gold.

The greater portion of these Cotton fabrics imported came from England; but some came from ^{other} European countries and from America. However, as they all came from and through the British Colonial port of Hong Kong, it is the habit of the Chinese Customs to treat them as British.

By carefully going through the several Custom House returns for this Province and Conamoo District, and sorting the imports as accurately as possible, the following items are gleaned, and are respectfully submitted; although it should be stated that China's consumption of Cotton fabrics of foreign manufacture is nowhere fully classified as to the nationality of production.

Items of Cotton Fabrics Imported.

<i>Goods</i>	<i>Pieces</i>	<i>Yards</i>	<i>Value \$ Sold.</i>
<i>Shirtings, Gray, Plain</i>	331.563	12.930.957	574.893.
" <i>, White, "</i>	557.810	22.152.400	1.351.745.
" <i>, Dyed, "</i>	32.362	1,294.480	96.326.
" <i>, Dyed, Fig? Bro? & Spotted</i>	15,590	623.600	39.482.
<i>T'Cloths 32 inches</i>	186.318	4,471.632	233.947.
" <i>36 "</i>	139.410	3,545.840	219.713.
<i>Drills, English</i>	6.722	268.880	16.911.
" <i>, American</i>	2.522	100.880	6.580.
<i>Jeans, English</i>	1.006		1.922.
" <i>, American</i>	1.177		2.391.
<i>Sheetings, English</i>	830	33.200	2.145.
" <i>, American</i>	60	2.400	.158.
<i>Chintzes</i>	14.796	887.760	25.202.
<i>Printed Cotton Drills</i>	3.666		9.206.
<i>Turkey Red Cotton</i>	33.248	831.200	52.683.
<i>Cotton Damask, Dyed</i>	1.174	46.960	4.163.
" <i>Velvets</i>	12.788	434.792	65.785.
" <i>Velveteens</i>	168	5.712	.657.
<i>Muslins, Cambrics, Lawns</i>	77.520	1,240.320	65.418.
<i>Cotton H'd Rfs</i>	42,200 <i>doz</i>		16.102.
" <i>Trunks</i>	63,519 <i>doz</i>		21.224.
<i>Blue mottles & denims</i>	251		.258.
<i>Canton Flannel</i>	620	13.640	2.126.
<i>Red Trunks</i>	3		14.

6

Cretonne	68	2584	.423.
Japanese narrow cloth	35,935	431.210	11.922.
Musquito netting	270	2.430	.421.
Cotton Thread			25.202.
" " reeled			4.520.
" Twills	592		.293.
Japanese towels	261		12.586.
Italian plain & fig. cloth	7.778		22.923.
Quinits	310	3.720	.899.
Shagwuns	103		.515.
Cotton fig. Hastings	435		1.435.
Uncolored Cotton Rdg	1.960		1.442.
Total of Cotton Fabrics - U.S. Cy -			\$ 2.891.545.00

Recapitulation of Cotton Imports in 1891.

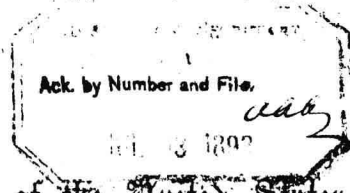
Cotton Yarn	\$ 9,062.656.00
Raw Cotton	1.426.591.00
Cotton Fabrics	2.891.545.00
Total of Cotton Imports	\$ 13.380.792.00

Respectfully submitted.



Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

No. 251



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, May 27th 1893

File

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Europeans in Eastern Asia urging the Chinese to adopt a retaliatory policy toward Americans.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Extracts from British newspapers in Shanghai and Hong Kong inclosed as specimens of the means employed to incite the Chinese government, merchants, and press to opposition to Americans in China and to the Government of the United States. Marked $\frac{1}{A}$, $\frac{2}{B}$, $\frac{3}{C}$.

Some points as to requirements from Chinese.

No. 251

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, May 27 1897.

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith, for the information of the Depart-
ment of State, Copies of extracts from ^{1. 2. 3.}
Editorials and correspondence published _{A. B. C}
in Shanghai and Hong Kong by the
British newspapers, with the evident
purpose of inducing the merchants,
men, officials and government
of China to adopt a restrictive
and retaliatory policy toward Americans
and the Government of the United States.

2

In the Imperial Maritime Customs Service of China there are a considerable number of citizens of the United States, who have resided in various parts of the Chinese Empire for the past ten, fifteen, or twenty years. Among them are such capable and talented gentlemen as Commissioner Woodruff, graduate of Yale College; Commissioners Drew ^{and Morse,} Merrill, ^{and Morse,} graduates of Harvard University; Commissioner Happer, graduate of Princeton College; Commissioner Clarke, graduate of Harvard; Deputy Commissioner Triney, graduate of Harvard; Deputy Commissioner Carl, graduate of a Southern College; and several others with whom I have no personal acquaintance. These gentlemen are from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, and are deservedly held in high esteem. The Commissioner at Canton is Mr E. B. Drew, a Baptist.

3

The efficient Superintendent of the Department of Lights and Lighthouses in China is Mr. Bixby from R.I. I might also mention other Americans who have honored their nationality in the Imperial Maritime Customs Service of China; such as Mr. Woodward, of Marshfield, Massachusetts, who has performed the duties of Harbor Master at Hankow, Canton, Shanghai, and other ports, with distinguished ability, for many years past; Chief Examiner Stebbins, of Connecticut, for many years at Canton, and later at Tientsin; Mr. Bryant, of Massachusetts, in the Custom House at Shanghai as First Assistant; and Mr. Forsyth, of Maine, in the Custom House at Canton; and several others, with from ten to twenty five years of official service in the Chinese Customs. Beside these, there is a goodly number of American citizens in the lower departments of the same service.

The usefulness, respectability, and standing of the aforementioned American citizens, as compared with their associates and colleagues of various European nationalities, will, in all probability prevent them from being turned adrift by the Chinese Government, unless clamor and pressure against Americans.

14

lead to hostilities; but under the influence of continual publication of Chinese grievances, and the unceasing attacks of the English and native newspapers along the Coast of Eastern Asia against Americans, the avenues of admission to and promotion in the Chinese Customs Service will be closed; and so far as foreign or European influence goes in China, American commerce will be obstructed whenever it comes into competition with the commercial interests of European countries.

American pilots along the Coast and on the rivers of China, under licenses issued by the Customs Authorities, are liable to the same treatment which Custom House Officials may receive. In the service of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company, owned by wealthy Mandarins and merchants, with the eminent Viceroy, Li Hong Chang, at its head, there are in command of several of their ships American citizens as commanders, Engineers, &c. with many years of honorable experience in the Coast and river commerce of China.

69

I am personally acquainted with several (seven or eight) of these American Steamship Captains, who have for over twenty years been engaged along the Coast and rivers of China. They are mostly from Maine and Massachusetts, and have families; and are highly esteemed by natives and foreigners for their efficiency in emergencies, and noble type of manhood; which make them general favorites along the Coast between Pootung and Canton, and at all river ports accessible by trading ships. And yet there are Europeans who are endeavoring to induce the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co. to send these faithful and competent American Commanders of Chinese ships out of that Company's service.

Although the American residents in China are not so numerous as Europeans, there is no British Station more creditably represented in the Customs Service, and in navigation, than the United States of America.

In the missionary field, Americans, as to intellectual qualifications and educational outfit, as well as to usefulness, respectability, influence, and judicious labors and exemplary lives, do not suffer by comparison with those of any of the European Countries.

In commerce there are so few Americans as to make it necessary that their share should be supplied by a distinct class of men, whom I beg permission to designate as Commercial Missionaries, to whom I referred in my last dispatch, N^o. 258, in connection with suggestions as to the most effective means of promoting sales of American products and manufactures in China and Eastern Asia.

Without attempting to indicate what might or should be done to adjust and harmonize the interests of the United States and China, it is proper to state the present condition of affairs between these two countries enables powerful combinations to put obstacles in the way of advancing the commercial interests of the United States in China.

5

It is very humiliating to ambitious, spirited, and talented American gentlemen, who are honoring themselves and their nationality in China, to be the targets of such envious or malicious attacks, as the accompanying extracts from European newspapers; when there is scarcely a Country in Europe where Chinese are wanted or received with any greater cordiality than in the United States; and when the British Colonies in Australia maintain restrictions of a rigid nature against the immigration of Chinese.

And yet to secure trade, position of influence, and advantages over Americans, Europeans keep up an unceasing clutter to prejudice Chinese against Americans.

In some way, and by some means, the Chinese Government should be made to understand the facts as to the restrictions maintained by other Nations against Chinese immigration.

8

Germany bars out the Chinese
 under a general law requiring
 all persons to take or obtain a
 license before commencing
 any business; and when a
 Chinaman has attempted to
 obtain such a license, he
 found it cannot be obtained; and
 that ends the matter without controversy.
 As there is a new Minister
 from China to soon appear
 in Washington, I respectfully
 suggest that will be a favorable
 opportunity to give some facts,
 about which there might be
 some delicacy in urging upon
 the attention of the Chinese
 Government due consideration.
 And the most palpable
 and undisputed of these facts
 is the non-observance of
 treaty stipulations by China,
 as regards Commerce between
 all foreign Nations and the
 interior of the Chinese Empire

9

The treaties made by China with Great Britain, France and Germany, and the "most favored nation" clause in the treaty made between China and the United States, and between China and other nations, provide for extending foreign trade into the interior of China under "transit passes" issued by Custom House officials, upon payment of duty and additional half-duty by importers of foreign commodities of commerce; and that the goods, on which the said duty and additional half-duty shall have ^{been} paid, shall be exempt from any and all other charges of whatever nature. Similar provision is made in the treaties for bringing from the interior commodities of Chinese production for export to foreign countries.

Chinese officials will not deny that such treaty stipulations exist; and they boldly declare the "transit pass" system is authorized by treaties; but they defeat the treaties by bringing, at pleasure and without restraint, a "le kin" tax at stations en route to the interior, on such goods.

10

One of these "Lekin" stations is within a hundred yards of the Custom House in Canton; and they continue in all directions to the frontier or interior; and "Lekin" officials seize and detain the goods covered by "transit pass" certificates; and the native boats in which the goods are conveyed; and occasionally arrest and imprison the native boatmen employed in the transportation of such goods; and when called to account by consuls, the high Chinese authorities shield the "Lekin" officials; and assert the right of the Chinese Government to levy any tax deemed necessary a proper one on any property in possession of Chinese subjects; and finally that the treatment of Chinese subjects and the administration of Chinese laws do not concern foreigners at all.

5

The subject of "Lekin" as obstructions to foreign commerce under "transit pass" was fully set forth in my dispatches numbered 198, 199 and 202, in June and July of 1890; in the last of which was transmitted a copy of my dispatch to His Excellency the Viceroy, urging upon him the observance of treaty stipulations as to trade with the interior under transit passes. Consuls representing seven nationalities met several times at the United States Consulate; and we combined our efforts so successfully as to obtain a fair operation of the transit pass system during 1891; when the number of transit pass certificates issued by the Canton House in Canton alone exceeded two thousand; as against almost nothing in the preceding years; and almost nothing in 1892, as the Mandarins having lost much of their Lekin revenue, induced the Authorities to return to the system of Lekin obstruction.

12/

For a verification of my statements as to the "transit pass" trade and the effects of that system in promoting trade with the interior, especially in the items of Kerosene and Cotton Yarn, permit me to append the following extracts from the official Customs Report of Canton Trade for 1891, in which the Commissioner speaks of it as "the first time in the history of the port of Transit Passes for goods sent into the interior, and the consequent increase of importations of Kerosene oil."

CANTON TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1891.

1°. LOCAL.—The Canton trade statistics for the year 1891 indicate a continued growth in the commerce of the port, as may be seen on comparing the yearly values of the past three decades. In 1864 the total net value of the trade taken cognizance of by the Foreign Customs was Hk.Ts. 14,392,279; in 1873 it rose to Hk.Ts. 22,987,171; in 1882, to Hk.Ts. 28,875,573; and in 1891, to Hk.Ts. 45,957,092. Allowance made for the complete transfer, since 1887, of the carriage of Opium to Foreign bottoms, there remains evident a remarkable progressive increase in the yearly volume of trade. That the figure reached in 1891 should be so strikingly in excess of former years—no less than 19.42 per cent. above 1890—is in a measure due to special causes: firstly, the regular use, for the first time in the history of the port, of Transit Passes for goods sent into the interior, and the consequent increased importations of Cotton Yarn and Kerosene Oil in Foreign-type craft.

3°. FOREIGN TRADE.—(a.) Imports.—The total value amounts to an increase of Hk.Ts. 1,396,046, or 12.66 per cent. over 1890. The table shows considerable increases under most headings; Piece Goods and Lead, however, show marked decline. The falling off in Piece Goods is ascribed to vexatious changes in methods of local taxation seriously unsettling

the Canton market, and also to the growing competition of Native Cloth made from Yarn. Lead in Pigs has fallen 50 per cent., of which about 15 per cent. is real loss, the balance having come by junk. The increases are mainly in the following goods: Indian Cotton Yarn has gained 35,545 piculs; Matches, 191,101 gross; and Kerosene Oil, over 4,500,000 gallons, half of which is actual gain.

13

Another point of contrast between the treatment of Chinese in the United States and all foreigners in China is worthy of mention. While Chinese are permitted in America to engage in all or any of the industries, employments, enterprises, or kinds of business, including mines and mining, over a vast range of country; foreigners in China cannot go into the interior without passports; and are restricted in many privileges to the Treaty Ports; and find it difficult in all places, and impossible in many or ordinary places, to obtain a long lease of buildings for occupancy; and as to participation in mines and mining business or interests foreigners are so excluded from having anything to do therewith, that it is expressly declared by the Chinese Authorities that in granting franchises to natives, all shares and property in mines owned by foreigners, or by natives for foreigners, shall be confiscated.

14

China is full of mineral wealth, which will never be developed until foreigners, and foreign methods and machinery, shall be in operation.

These are some of the facts which should be so plainly pressed upon the attention of the Chinese Government, that the entire civilized world will thank the United States Government for distinctly presenting them in a firm and public way, with a square demand for correction and improvement.

It may be asked how does China contrive to keep Europeans quiet in the face of such unjustifiable conduct?

By dealing with the Opium from India in a peculiar way Great Britain is kept quiet

By purchases of Krupp guns, ^{for Chinese forts & navy} and employing German officers as military instructors, Germany is kept quiet.

By permitting French Roman Catholic Missions in all of the Provinces of China, and allowing Tonquin to be under French control, France is kept quiet.

45

China cannot safely postpone much longer the question of adopting a national railway system; and it should not require much argument to convince her statesmen that a Country which has built half of the railway mileage of the world; and has the distinguished honor of being the only one of the great Powers on the Globe which has no possible motive for desiring acquisition of Chinese territory; has the requisite experience for the prosecution of a great national railway system in China; and would not jeopardize the interests or integrity of the Chinese Empire, while possessing abundant resources to insure success to a gigantic work of that nature.

But without reference to such prospective opportunities for American talent, machinery, and capital; existing interests seem to urgently

16

demand an early adjustment
of differences between the
United States and China
on a broad and equitable
basis, which shall establish
mutual benefits and reciprocal
security for international com-
merce and intercourse;
and put it out of the power
of all rivals and competitors
to foster prejudices among
the Chinese against Americans.

I am, Sir,

Very obediently,
Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

Approved &
1. 2. 3.
A. B. C.

Copy

$\frac{1}{A}$

From an Editorial of a column's length in the North China Daily News of May 15th 1893, the following are extracts:-

"The United States must abrogate their treaties with China before they can limit or prohibit as they have shown a wish to do, the immigration of Chinese; and the existing treaties abrogated, the Chinese would have their say in the matter as soon as the United States wanted to make a new treaty" + + +

"In another column we give a literal translation of the Tseungli Yamen's acknowledgment of Col. Denby's despatch" + + +.

"There is absolutely nothing to be said in favor of the Geary Act" + + +

"We have more than once pointed out in these columns that while it is unintelligible how the Congress of a civilized and enlightened country could ~~pass~~^{pass} such an Act, in the face of existing treaties, it is impossible that it can put the Act in force."

$\frac{2}{B}$

Copy

From the North China Daily News of
May 17th 1893, the following are copied.

H. H. Sultzberger's letter to the Editor is
published commending the article published
15th May in North China Daily News, & says.

× × × "Having obtained some temporary
occupation in the well known China
Merchants Steam Navigation Company during
the protracted period of deep mourning of my
adored chief, Lord Li, and being in daily
attendance upon Mr. Shên, the Director of
that Company, I have had an opportunity
quite recently, of being present at the call
of a distinguished Western gentleman who actually
remarked to him that it would be about the
right time for his making a slightly retaliatory
counter-move against this cruelly unjust Searcy
Act by dismissing from the Company's service
all the United States Citizens who happened to be
in its employ, where Mr. Shên simply replied
that he failed to see "how two wrongs ever
could make a right," and that, — he
was firmly convinced that most of these
gentlemen, if not all of them, would be

ready to openly and fraudulently denounce in writing this very Healy Act, if ask to do so.

Thus then, the citizens of the so-called Emporium of personal falsehood in the farthest West are quietly taught a crushing moral lesson which ought to condemn them to everlasting shame in the eyes of the whole civilized world! "

I am, etc.

(signed) H. H. Sullyenger.
16th May. "



$\frac{3}{2}$

From an Editorial of a column's length in the China Mail of May 19, 1893, the following are extracts.

"It will be seen from the telegram which we publish today that the Geary Act, a product of ignorance and selfishness and a blot on United States legislation, has been declared to be constitutional, by the Supreme Court in Washington." + + + +

"Along with the declaration that the Act is constitutional, however, we have the somewhat ironical announcement that this power cannot be exercised because of the lack of funds necessary for the deportation of the unregistered Chinese." + + +

"The position in which the Government is thus placed is both embarrassing and undignified, and it is a position from which it will have considerable difficulty in extricating itself." + + + +

"It would be too much to expect the Tsungli Yamen to tamely acquiesce in the proposed general kicking-out, in open and direct violation of the treaty, still nominally in force, which grants to Chinese subjects:

visiting or residing in the United States the same privileges, immunities and exemptions in respect to travel or residence as may there be enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of the most favoured nation.

The result of such a violation of the treaty cannot fail in the long run to be detrimental to the interests of the people of the United States, and it may be particularly disagreeable to those of them who are residing in China. We speak of the exclusiveness of China, and the racial hatred of the Chinese towards men of another colour; but even the famous Chou Han himself has hardly shown more hostility to foreigners than has been manifested by "free & enlightened" citizens of the United States against the Chinese. Not long ago we read of a case of brutal and heartless persecution of an unoffending Celestial which will serve as an illustration. It happened in the city of Great Falls, Montana.

x x x x

"The redoubtable Huns have plenty of imitators under the stars and stripes, people upon whom the proud 'Birds'

the symbol of liberty, must look with considerable surprise, unless that feathered prodigy is, after all, only a mocking bird."

No. 252



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, May 31st 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

file
see No
257

SUBJECT:

Continuation of No. 251

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No inclosures, being extracts
from Chinese official customs
returns for Canton in 1892,
issued in advance of annual reports,
which verify statements in Consul
Seymour's No. 251 to the Department
of State, as to the local tax obstructions
to transit pass trade with the interior.

No. **252**

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, May 31 - 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith, in continuation of and as supplementary to my last dispatch of 27th instant (No. 251), to transmit herewith, appended and marked $\frac{1}{1}$ and $\frac{2}{2}$, extracts from official Chinese customs in verification of my statements, as to the obstruction of foreign trade under transit passes with the interior, by "lekin tax" exactions and officials. The facts were so clearly disclosed

by Commissioner Rocher in his report marked $\frac{1}{1}$ as to occasion much uneasiness and displeasure among the Mandarins who are interested in maintaining their revenue from "Le Kin"; and an attempt was made by the Customs Department to recall and suppress the few copies issued by the Commissioner among the Consuls and personal friends; and in its stead a modification of the Report, as marked $\frac{2}{2}$, has been published for public use.

In either form the testimony of Mr. Rocher is important.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul

CANTON TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1892.

1°. LOCAL.—It is remarkable that, notwithstanding the various and complex causes which have adversely affected trade and its natural development, the Canton statistics for 1892 record a gain of nearly 1 per cent. over the figures for 1891—the highest hitherto reached. The causes that operate here are of two distinct kinds: firstly, those that have no appreciable effect on trade or even influence it favourably; and, secondly, those which cripple trade and are bound to check or otherwise seriously retard its natural growth. Of the first kind, we have the preferential treatment accorded to junk-borne cargo—lower Tariff Duty and lighter Likin,—thus successfully diverting trade into junks and reducing in inverse ratio the Canton Customs share in the volume of trade, while swelling the receipts of the Native Customs. The causes of the second category are many and complex, but mention need only be made here of the more striking ones, namely, (1°) the interruption of the Transit trade and the collection, at places of destination inland, of taxes—as a *quid pro quo* for loss of Likin at Canton; (2°) the yearly increase (in number as well as in rates) of Canton octroi levied on all goods in transit through the city; and (3°) the numerous guilds, farms, syndicates, and such-like disguised forms of monopolies, which, though apparently useful to the Native collectorate in securing a fixed annual revenue, prove a serious burden to trade. The causes enumerated above have actively operated against trade during the year under review, and they will no doubt recur yearly, in a lesser or greater degree, until the junk maritime trade is placed under the same efficient régime as now controls the Treaty port Custom Houses. It will be seen, then, that the most striking features of the year's trade are—the cessation of the Transit trade, the diversion of Piece Goods and Kerosene Oil to Native carriers, the diminished importation of Rice and Opium, and the recovery by steamers of the carriage of Tea. The total net value of the Import and Export trade (exclusive of Opium) amounted to Hk.Tls 41,596,556, or 2.91 per cent. more than in 1891, and the total net value for the three ports—Canton, Kowloon, and Lappa,—which amounted to Hk.Tls 85,921,622, is not only the largest up to date, but is 1.33 per cent. above the figures for 1891. Read in the light of the foregoing remarks, these figures are instructive in illustrating the extent to which the trade and prosperity of Kwangtung and the adjacent provinces are capable of being increased. On the whole, the year's trade is said to have been remunerative.

REVENUE.—The total collection (Hk.Tls 2,342,590.7.9.1) is Hk.Tls 137,568.9.3.1 less than in 1891. While the Import, Export, and Coast Trade headings show an aggregate increase of Hk.Tls 109,091.6.5.4—derived from Lead, Cotton Yarn, Sugar, Silk, and Tea,—there is a heavy decline under Tonnage and Transit Dues (Hk.Tls 30,550.4.7.7) and Opium Duty and Likin (Hk.Tls 216,110.1.0.8), amounting to Hk.Tls 246,660.5.8.5, thus giving the net deficit stated above.

3°. FOREIGN TRADE.—(a) Imports.—The total net value (Hk.Tls 12,411,395) has declined by Hk.Tls 4,672. As already explained, the considerable decreases noticeable under most headings in this table are ascribed mainly to the collapse of the Transit trade and the preferential treatment accorded to junk-borne cargo. The import of Piece Goods has fallen

5°. INLAND TRANSIT.—As has already been observed, this most promising trade ceased completely in July. Thus, from January to July 1892 there were issued 492 Transit Passes, representing a value of Hk.Tls 406,696, showing, as compared with the figures for 1891, the enormous decrease of 1,454 Passes—value, Hk.Tls 1,335,168,—or 76.65 per cent. To the extinction of this trade is mainly attributable the decline evidenced in the table of Imports, and this falling off is likely to be still more marked in 1893. The Transit trade can well support additional taxation in exchange for greater facilities and privileges, and if an agreement could be made whereby a Likin Duty was payable on entry simultaneously with the Import Duty, thus freeing Foreign Imports from all further taxation—as is now the case with Opium,—such an arrangement would conciliate both the interests of trade and the exigencies of the provincial revenue, and prove a great boon towards the expansion of Foreign commerce.

10°. MISCELLANEOUS.—Import and Export values were as follows:—

Hk.Tls	Hk.Tls
Net Foreign Imports, market value 12,411,395	Original Exports, market value 18,885,766
Net Native Imports, market value 15,051,546	
Net Imports 27,462,941	
Deduct Duties and Likin paid at Canton 1,590,820	Add Duty paid at Canton 722,702
Net Imports, minus Duty 25,872,121	Exports, plus Duty 19,608,468
Deduct 7 per cent. for importers' profit, etc. 1,811,048	Add 8 per cent. on market value for exporters' profit, etc. 1,510,861
Imports, value at moment of landing 24,061,073	Exports, value at moment of shipment 21,119,329

LS. ROCHER,

Commissioner of Customs.

CANTON, 20th January 1893.

The Customs Margin Fund is about 80,000. It is one dollar good.

Charles Seymour, Esq.,
United States Consul,

with
L. Rochar's complin
Ch'hiang 10. Apr. '93

CANTON
TRADE REPORT AND RETURNS,
1892.

British	1	...	1	310	1	310	...	...	1	310	1	310	2	5
American	1	436	...	...	1	436	...	...	1	436	1	436	2	1
German .....	...	...	1	348	1	348	1	348	...	...	1	348	2	1
Total Sailing Vessels	1	436	2	658	3	1,094	1	348	2	746	3	1,094	6	7
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,571	1,587,070	172	35,332	1,743	1,622,402	1,372	1,446,028	376	180,283	1,748	1,626,311	3,491	3,244

CANTON TRADE REPORT,

FOR THE YEAR 1892.

2
2

1°. LOCAL.—It is remarkable that, notwithstanding the various and complex causes which have adversely affected trade and its natural development, the Canton statistics for 1892 record a gain of nearly 1 per cent. over the figures for 1891—the highest hitherto reached. The causes that operate here are of various kinds, some that have no appreciable effect on trade or even influence it favourably, and others which cripple trade and are bound to check or otherwise seriously retard its natural growth. It is only necessary, however, to mention here the more striking causes, namely, (1°) the interruption of the Transit trade; (2°) the yearly increase (in number as well as in rates) of Canton octroi levied on all goods in transit through the city; and (3°) the numerous guilds, farms, syndicates, and such-like combinations, which, though apparently useful to the Native collectorate in securing a fixed annual revenue, prove a serious burden to trade. The causes enumerated above have actively operated against trade during the year under review, and they will no doubt recur yearly, in a lesser or greater degree, until the junk maritime trade is placed under a régime as efficient as that which now controls the Treaty port Custom Houses. The most striking features of the year's trade, therefore, are—the cessation of the Transit trade, the large share in the transport of Piece Goods and Kerosene Oil taken by Native carriers, the diminished importation of Rice and Opium, and the recovery by steamers of the carriage of Tea. The total net value of the Import and Export trade (exclusive of Opium) amounted to *Hk.Tls* 41,596,556, or 2.91 per cent. more than in 1891, and the total net value for the three ports—Canton, Kowloon, and Lappa,—which amounted to *Hk.Tls* 85,921,622, is not only the largest up to date, but is 1.33 per cent. above the figures for 1891. Read in the light of the foregoing remarks, these figures are instructive in illustrating the extent to which the trade and prosperity of Kwangtung and the adjacent provinces are capable of being increased. On the whole, the year's trade is said to have been remunerative.

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5°. INLAND TRANSIT.—As has already been observed, this most promising trade ceased completely in July. Thus, from January to July 1892 there were issued 492 Transit Passes, representing a value of *Hk.Tls* 406,696, showing, as compared with the figures for 1891, the enormous decrease of 1,454 Passes—value, *Hk.Tls* 1,335,168,—or 76.65 per cent. To the extinction of this trade is mainly attributable the decline evidenced in the table of Imports, and this falling off is likely to be still more marked in 1893. The Transit trade can well support additional taxation in exchange for greater facilities and privileges, and if an agreement could be made whereby a Likin Duty was payable on entry simultaneously with the Import Duty, thus freeing Foreign Imports from all further taxation—as is now the case with Opium,—such an arrangement would conciliate both the interests of trade and the exigencies of the provincial revenue, and prove a great boon towards the expansion of Foreign commerce.

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	<i>Hk.Tls</i>		<i>Hk.Tls</i>
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Native Imports, market value	15,051,546		
Imports	27,462,941	Add Duty paid at Canton	722,702
Indut Duties and Likin paid at Canton	1,590,820	Exports, plus Duty	19,608,468
Imports, minus Duty	25,872,121	Add 8 per cent. on market value for exporters' profit, etc.	1,510,861
Indut 7 per cent. for importers' profit, etc.	1,811,048	Exports, value at moment of shipment	21,119,329
Imports, value at moment of landing	24,061,073		

LS. ROCHER,

Commissioner of Customs.

CANTON, 20th January 1893.

CANTON
TRADE REPORT AND RETURNS,
1892.

British .....	...	...	1	310	1	310	...	...	1	310	1	310	1
American	1	436	...	...	1	436	...	...	1	436	1	436	1
German .....	...	...	1	348	1	348	1	348	...	...	1	348	1
Total Sailing Vessels	1	436	2	658	3	1,094	1	348	2	746	3	1,094	6
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,571	1,587,070	172	35,332	1,743	1,622,402	1,372	1,446,028	376	180,283	1,748	1,626,311	3,491

No. 259

June 7/29/93



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, June 5th 1893



✓ To Min. at Peking
25 Aug 93. m
W. Seymour

To the Department of State.

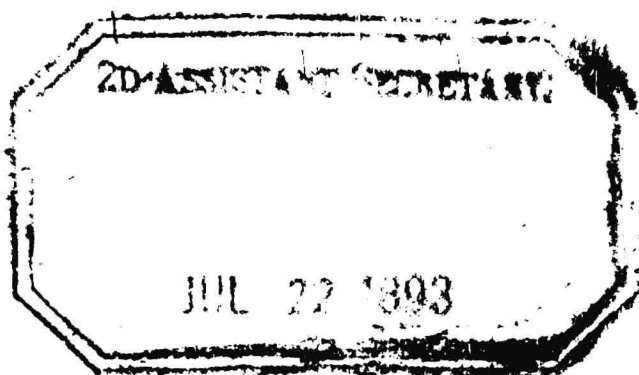
SUBJECT:

Recent attempt to incite natives to outrages
by mischievous literature suppressed in Canton.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Sales commenced on the streets of Canton
of the mischievous publication, entitled
"Death blow to corrupt doctrine, sup-
pressed by the Chinese Authorities
on demand of the Consuls.

This is the same matter that was used
by the mischief-makers to cause the Peking
Massacre of 1871, and Yangtze Valley Outrage in 1890-1.



Mr. Bridger

Copy to Mr. Denby
for his information. The
prompt assurances given by
the Viceroy to the Councils, and
the apparently effective measures
taken by him to suppress the
sale of this mischievous publica-
tion, are appreciated.

CONSULAR BUREAU.

So ack to Mr. Seymour.

ack

ack

No. 259

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, June 5th 1893

Honorable Irish Limery

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that in Canton attempts were made in the last half of the month of May 1893 to get into general circulation (by sales on the streets) a book printed on carved blocks in Chinese. The same mischievous matter that was so successfully used by native mischief-makers in getting up the Tientsin massacre of 1871, and the Angere Valley outrage of 1890-1.

2

The Consuls secured copies of the book, and demanded that the Chinese authorities should take prompt and effective measures to stop its sale and circulation in and about Canton. Copies of the book were sent to His Excellency the Viceroy with Consular dispatches.

Assurances to Consuls from H.E. the Viceroy were given that sales and publicity of the vile publication would be immediately suppressed; and it now seems difficult or almost impossible to find a copy of it in Canton on sale.

The book is well and widely known in China by its title - "Death blow to corrupt doctrine"; because of its malignity, vulgarity, and hostility against foreigners and Christianity.

3

Nearly all of inflammatory placards, which incite outrages against foreigners and Christians and their mission chapels, school-houses, hospitals, and dwellings, in various parts of China, embody the charges that the preachers, teachers, and leaders of this corrupt doctrine of Christianity are guilty of atrocities and brutalities which are fully set forth in the book referred to; and after the populace become imbued with the impression that Christians commit loathsome brutalities upon natives who are captured as victims to lust and crime, the turbulent elements are ready to engage in anti-foreign and anti-Christian outrages, and persecution against native converts to Christianity.

A translation of the book has been made; and for obscenity, vulgarity, and hateful rage, it must ever remain unequalled.

Consul at Canton has found that the most effective method of dealing

4/

with their threatened disturbance is to press upon the high Chinese Authorities the responsibility for outrages, that can be prevented by timely action on the part of Chinese officials, who are invested with power to suppress mischief, before it culminates in formidable resistance to the duly constituted Authorities.

And though the missionaries and traders of all nationalities, denominations, and localities, we endeavor to keep informed of everything that serves to indicate whether matters are going on smoothly or roughly.

We certainly have to thank H.E. the Viceroy for attending to our demands in this case promptly and energetically.

$\frac{1}{A}$ Permit me to append a specimen letter from an esteemed American missionary, and a note from the British Consul General bearing upon the subject.

$\frac{2}{B}$

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles E. Johnson

[Signature]

A

Canton - May 25th 1873
Hon Charles Seymour. U.S. Consul
Dear Sir -

The Chinese book inclosed was handed me this morning by a native preacher. It was purchased at the book stall - immediately across the street - from Hing Ki's Store on Canal Road - (Sha - Ki) - just within the Street Gate - at the foot of the bridge - near the Shamien bridge - This book was purchased on Monday last - I have another copy which was purchased at the same place this morning for 19 cash - It is a reprint of the same book which was published and widely distributed about twenty five years ago. I send you a translation of it. You will find that the first 49 pages contain an exact translation of the copy I send you - The Human petition only is ~~recommitted~~ - You will know what to do in the matter. There seems to have ^{been} a large sale of this book recently in Canton & presumably throughout the country.

Yours faithfully
B C Henry

May 29th 1893

My Dear Seymour,

Yesterday evening I
received a reply from the Viceroy
about the Deathblow book. He
states that he at once gave orders
for the seizure & destruction of
the book & of the blocks.
He also told me that he

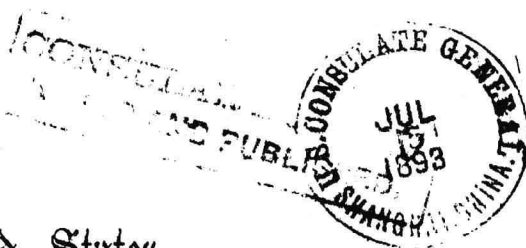
had received a letter from ^{Frederick (Consul)} venture to expose it for
Huan^{on} the same sale in the streets in the city,
Subject. Yesterday I went
along some streets looking
for the book but did not
find any copy - nor did
a messenger whom I saw
out in the afternoon. The
rogues would scarcely

yours truly
Z. Watters

Note from British Consul General Watters

No.

254



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, June 30th 1893



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT: —

Transmitting Account, Vouchers, and Returns,
for Quarter ended June 30th 1893.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Enclosures Nos 1 @ 7 as per list.

No. 254

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, June 30 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith
Account, Vouchers, and Returns, from this
Consulate, for the Quarter ended this day,
as per enclosed list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

List of inclosures

- ✓ 1. Account with vouchers.
✓ 2. Digest of Invoice Book.
✓ 3. Return of Exports.
✓ 4. Record of Notarial Services.
✓ 5. Aggregate of Fees.
✓ 6. Summary of Business.
✓ 7. Names of deceased citizens.

(Form No. 121.)

NAMES of all Deceased American Citizens, including Seamen or Mariners, together with the value of the personal effects belonging to them, and taken possession of by, or deposited with Charles Layman, U. S. Consul at Canton, China, the value from April 1, 1893 to June 30, 1893, inclusive. None of the personal effects of deceased came under notice of the Bureau, as relatives of deceased were present and took charge of the same.

DATE OF DECEASE.	NAME OF PERSON.	OF WHAT PLACE A NATIVE OR RESIDENT.	IF A SEAMAN, TO WHAT VESSEL BELONGING.	WHERE DECEASED.	VALUE OF EFFECTS.	DISPOSITION MADE THEREOF.
1893	May Edward Layman, having relation of father, aged about 63 years	Ward, Massachusetts, U.S.A.	American.	Canton, China.	None	Wife and adult children in charge. Deceased was buried in the Missionaries' cemetery near East gate of City of Canton. Property mostly in the United States.
June 18	Yuan, ed. Hui, aged 58 years, wife the widow of whom mentioned Dr. Edward Layman, Hui, NY	Born in (Canton), China, Resided in Brooklyn, NY		Canton, China.	None	Adult children present in charge of deceased and her personal effects. Property mostly in the United States. Deceased was buried in the Missionaries' Cemetery near East gate of City.
	(These two excellent American citizens died while temporarily sojourning at Canton, China, after locating their own and daughter as Missionaries in the Province of Kweichow (Yung) of the American Board of Christian Missions. Dr. Hui died of dysentery, Mrs. Hui died of typhoid fever.)					

NOTE.—To be sent quarterly to the Department of State. The indorsement on the back should be completed.

June 30
1893

Charles Layman

U. S. Consul

(FORM No. 103.)

SUMMARY of business at the United States Consulate at ^{or Agency} Swatow
during the quarter ended 30. June, 1893.

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS.

Vessels in port from last quarter,
Vessels arriving during present quarter,
Vessels departing,
Vessels remaining in port,
Tonnage arriving,
Tonnage departing,
Fees received, \$
Expenses, including salary, \$

Nihil

MOVEMENT OF SEAMEN.

Seamen in port from last quarter,
Seamen arriving,
Seamen shipped,
Seamen deceased,
Seamen discharged,
Seamen deserted,
Seamen departed,
Seamen in port,

Nihil

UNITED STATES Consular Agency at Swatow, China
30. June

[SEAL.]



F. O. Scherck.
U. S. Consular Agent.

[THIS RETURN TO BE SENT AT END OF EACH QUARTER, TO THE FIFTH AUDITOR,
WITH ACCOUNT FOR SALARY AND FEES.]

(FORM No. 103.)

SUMMARY of business at the United States Consulate at Canton, China.

during the quarter ended *June 30.* 189*3.*

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS.

Vessels in port from last quarter,

Vessels arriving during present quarter,

Vessels departing,

Vessels remaining in port,

Tonnage arriving,

Tonnage departing,

Fees received, \$

Expenses, including salary, \$

MOVEMENT OF SEAMEN.

Seamen in port from last quarter,

Seamen arriving,

Seamen shipped,

Seamen deceased,

Seamen discharged,

Seamen deserted,

Seamen departed,

Seamen in port,

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT CANTON, CHINA.

June 30. , 189*3.*

SEAL

Charles J. ...
U. S. Consul.

[THIS RETURN TO BE SENT, AT END OF EACH QUARTER, TO THE FIFTH AUDITOR,
WITH ACCOUNT FOR SALARY AND FEES.]

May

No. *255*

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, *July 7th 1893*



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

*Received
8/23/93*

SUBJECT:..

*Quarantine Laws
and Regulations*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Inclosing certificates of
publicity at Canton Consulate
and Consular Agency at Amoy.*

No. 255-

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, July 7-1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith certificates as to publicity
of the "United States Quarantine Laws
and Regulations" (February, 24-1893),
and "Laws and Regulations for the
Maritime Quarantine of the United States"
(April 4-1893), at this Consulate,
and at the U.S. Consular Agency at Canton.

2
1/A 2/10

I am, Sir,

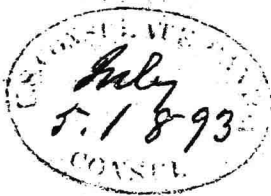
Very obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

$\frac{I}{A}$

Consulate of the United States,
Canton, China, July 5th 1893.

I hereby certify that a printed copy of the "United States Quarantine Laws and Regulations" (February 24th 1893), and a copy of the printed "Laws and Regulations for the Maritime Quarantines of the United States" (April 4th 1893), have been publicly posted in and at this Consulate for more than ten days consecutively, commencing June 10th 1893, and continuing to date.



Charles Seymour
United States Consul
at Canton, China.

$\frac{2}{B}$

United States Consular Agency
Swatow, China,
July 2^d. 1893.

I hereby certify that a copy of
the printed "United States Quarantine
Laws and Regulations" (February
24th 1893), and a copy of the
printed "Laws and Regulations for
the Maritime Quarantines of the
United States" (April 4th 1893) have
been publicly posted in and at
this Consular Agency for more
than ten days consecutively,
commencing June 22^d. 1893.



F. V. Streich,
United States Consular Agent
at Swatow, China.

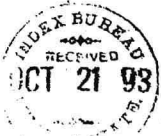
No. 256

Ans. Oct. 26, 1893 R



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, September 6th 1893



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

*ordered
10/26/93*

SUBJECT:

*Needed supplies for the U.S.
Consulate at Canton.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Flags, sailing map, gun or mailage, time
or cord, paper, books, pens, envelopes;
and
iron safe.*

No. 258

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, September 6th 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that
this Consulate may be supplied with

viz: one 18 ^{ft} United States Flag	} For special occasions, such as official visits.
one 16 ^{ft} " " " "	
three 12 ^{ft} " " " "	" " " " " Sunday & Holidays.
three 8 ^{ft} " " " "	" " " " " For ordinary use in fine weather.
five 6 ^{ft} " " " "	" " " " " For rough weather.

It is several years since new flags were received; and this supply should last two or three years.

In Canton, the absence of a flag from a liner flag-staff occasions unfavorable surmises.

27

Two pounds of sealing wax - used for sealing
 parcels to United States Custom Houses chiefly.

Two pounds Gum Arabic, or one doz bottles mulling.

Half a dozen balls of twine or cord of two sizes - 3 each.

One ream Dispatch paper wide lines.

One ream " " narrower ordinary lines.

One ream ruled foolscap - firm paper.

One ream " Letter paper " "

One ream Commercial note " "

Two ⁱⁿ foolscap or office size paper envelopes
 of two sizes, and not with lined.

One Free Book -

One Dispatch Book -

One Miscellaneous Record Book.

1/4 ream each Wrapping and Blotting Paper.

Two boxes strong coarse paper (steel) ^{thin}

1 Case a box, as divided at end of paragraph ^{of Cont. of}

As to the necessity for a good
 fire-proof and burglar-proof iron safe
 (worth between one and three hundred dollars) you
 can judge by the following fact.

3

In the Circular Mirror for the past half a Century, or perhaps longer, there has appeared an iron box; which, with its contents, long ago had been badly riddled by insects, rust, moisture, &c. The box is of no more value than a joint of worthless stone pipe. It should be thrown away, or sent to the Chicago Exposition. In this country and climate the insects consume houses, and almost everything but plug-tobacco. The white ants, cock roaches, &c. are very severe as pests in destroying books, papers, and other property. Buildings often fall in by reason of the timbers and supports being consumed by white-ants & dry rot. Only last year, several tons of the rotunda of the new banking house of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation fell a few minutes after business hours, caused by the havoc of white ants in a building scarcely five years old. We cannot keep insects out of wooden furniture unless cleaned daily. Books need much attention.

Among the valuable papers in this Consulate are deed, mortgage, and title papers on the property of the Canton Club, which is worth from fifteen to twenty thousand dollars, as security for between five and six thousand dollars loaned to the Club for an indefinite period (intended to be almost in perpetuity); which was part of some indemnity money paid by the Chinese Government to the American residents in Canton for the destruction of their Garden property by a Chinese mob a third of a century ago.

I found that money earning nothing, and loaned without interest to a Company which had the money invested in "Boulevard Hall", which was consumed by the Chinese mob of September 1890.

From the indemnity, I rescued the money, convinced the American Citizens, organized a Board of five American Trustees, loaned the money at six per cent interest to the Canton Club.

The interest (\$325⁰⁰) goes to the support of the "American Garden Fund Library". This is one of the things which I took the liberty to adjust and arrange without troubling the Department with details.

Still, I deem it proper that you should have these facts, and I respectfully suggest that as this Consulate is in custody or possession of documents and papers of considerable value at times, and is permanently in possession of these valuable papers, affecting the "Canton Club" and the "American Garden Fund Library", it would be reasonable and proper, (in view of insecurity from insects, fire, mobs, and thieves, and climatic influences) that the oldest (and, possibly, the best) of American or United States Consulates should have an iron safe worth about two hundred dollars.

Yours, Sir,

Very obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

file



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, September 30th 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Account, Vouchers & Returns
for Quarter ended Sept 30. 1893.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 257

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, September 30th 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Account, Vouchers and returns of this Consulate for the quarter ended this date, as per subjoined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

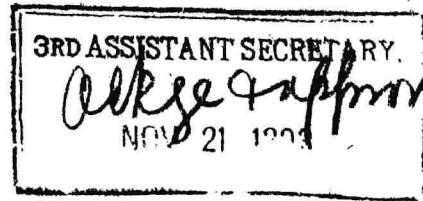
Yours obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

[Signature]

List of inclosures. viz:
1. Account Mis. Exp. & Vouchers.
2. Digest of Invoice Book.
3. Record of Notarial Services.
4. Summary of Business.

No. 258



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, October 3^d 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Interpreter

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Resignation of Mr Chiu Poy Woo.
Mr Chu Watson on trial as successor.
Difficulties in getting competent
and trustworthy Interpreters.*

No. 258

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, October 3rd 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy,

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Mr Chiu By Woo, the excellent Interpreter at this Consulate for past seven years, has resigned, to accept a better position elsewhere; and has recommended Mr Cheu Watson as his successor.

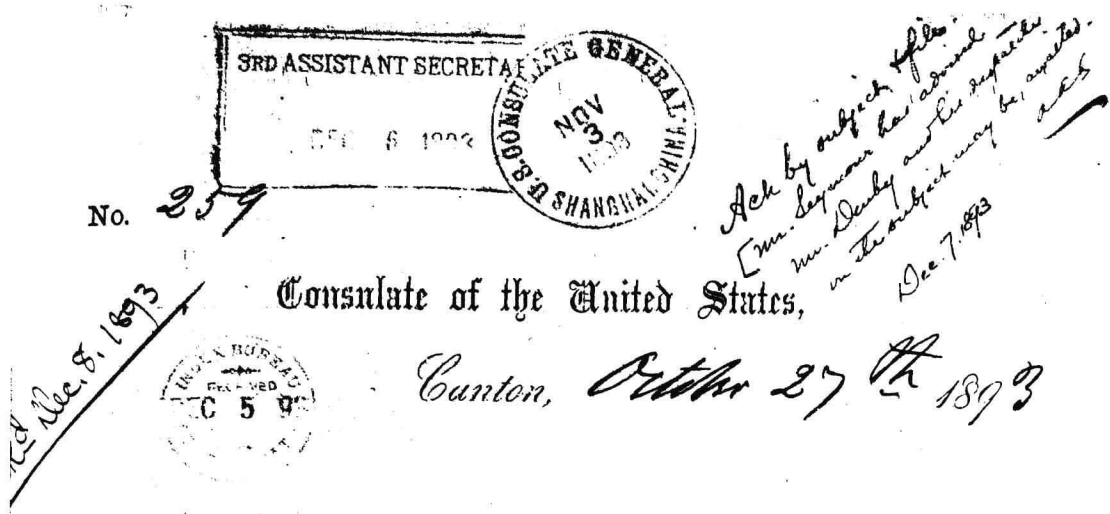
With much reliance upon Mr Chiu's selection of an Interpreter for this Consulate, I have taken Mr Cheu Watson on trial; and hope at the end of this quarter to find him a worthy successor to

to a most competent, faithful, and trust-worthy gentleman, who was one of the Chinese students who had the benefit of education in the United States, including Yale College treatment; although it will not be reasonable to expect that his place will be filled with equal ability.

One of the greatest difficulties in getting a competent and trust-worthy Chinese Interpreter, is the tendency or determination of the average Chinaman in that capacity to go outside of his duties, by levying a sum in excess of his salary upon gambling dens, brothels, &c. for immunity from his influential complaints to Chinese Officials. Watchfulness alone prevents it.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant.

Charles Seymour
A. General.



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

"Coolie trade" revived at Macao.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

A German Steamship named
"Tartar" leaves Macao with
four hundred and eighty Chinese
Coolies for Brazil, with the aid
of Portuguese Authorities, against
the remonstrance of Chinese Viceroys,
Li Han Chang, of the Mo Kwangs.

No. 259

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, October 27th 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that on the 17th instant ~~the~~ German Steamship, of fifteen hundred tons, named "Titartos", left the port of Macao with a cargo of four hundred and eighty Chinese coolies for Brazil, under the protection of a Portuguese gun-boat, and with the aid and co-operation of the Portuguese officials, and against the remonstrance, or in disregard of the wishes, of the Chinese Authorities of this Province of Kowloon.

2/

The "Titartos" fitted up for this "coolie trade" or "immigration business" in the port of Hong Kong in June and July last; and legal proceedings were instituted in the Supreme Court of that Colony about 21st of July, and continued through August, for alleged violation of an Ordinance which forbids such work, under penalty of imprisonment and fines for the evil-doer or offenders, and confiscation of the ship.

By stout denials from the Agents and Attorneys of the ship, and their assurance that, if released, the "Titartos" would continue in her former business as a "Coaster", the ship was released; whereupon the "Titartos" immediately proceeded to Bangkok for rice to feed coolies during their voyage to Brazil.

From the "Juns" or barracoons, where
 the coolies were gathered under promise
 of ten dollars per month as wages,
 with an advance of five dollars before
 departure, and free entertainment at the
 "Juns" prepared for their reception, and
 free passage to Brazil, and assurance
 that the Ambassador of Brazil approved
 of this emigration to a country which
 desired their labor, and various allurements,
 these coolies were taken, in fives, under
 escort of the Macao police, to certain
 officials, in conformity with regulations
 prescribed by the Portuguese government as to
 emigration of Chinese coolies, until about
 two hundred coolies had been put on board the
 "Tetartos", at anchor about seven miles off
 Macao; but after Chinese officials
 began to look into the matter, and
 after it became known that the Chinese
 authorities wished to stop such emigration,
 the required formalities were totally
 abandoned; and about two hundred and
 eighty coolies were brought over from
 Hong Kong, and hurried into the "Tetartos",

4/

which had been brought near Macao where she would be more under Portuguese control, and out of the reach of the Chinese Authorities, who announced their intention to detain the "Titartos" for investigation; but the Portuguese gun-boat escorted the "Titartos" out to sea, and beyond Chinese jurisdiction. It is believed the "Titartos" intend to go to Rio-de-Janeiro. It was so declared. Appended, and marked 4, is a copy of a translation of the memorandum sent by His Excellency, the Viceroy of the Two Quangs, to the Acting Governor of Macao; which came into my hands through authentic channels of information which compel me to treat it, at present, as Confidential.

1/A

The Portuguese Authorities seemed to have maintained all possible secrecy in regard to the "Titartos"; but the signal of "monting on board," while the ship was at anchor off Macao, and the need of Portuguese forces to suppress it, and numerous difficulties that occurred to show the emigration was full of iniquitous conduct, enabled a few watchful persons to get at the facts.

5

The Portuguese Consul General (Romano) in Hong Kong is one of the active promoters of the scheme to entice coolies from China to go to Brazil; and his portion of the bounty money is said to be two and a half dollars per coolie.

I have communicated these facts, substantially as herein stated, to the United States Legation at Peking; and now transmit them to the Department of State, under the impression that any attempt to ruin "the coolie trade" will meet with the disapproval of the Government of the United States.

By the next mail to Europe the "Foreign Office" of the British Government will, I believe, be informed of particulars in regard to this case.

Yours Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
 Consul



1
A

Confidential.
Translation.

His Excellency the Viceroy of Canton,
to
The Acting Governor of Macao.

Sir:

I hear that persons in Macao are issuing placards (in China) to the effect that Brazil wants immigrants (from China), and further that two Inns for the reception of immigrants have been opened at Macao in a quiet and out-of-the-way street known as the Sailor's Street. The names given to these Inns - namely - "Inn for the advantage of Chinese", and "Inn of Immense Profit", are very descriptive. Already four hundred Chinese subjects have been collected, chiefly Hakkas, belonging to the Sam-on District. The vessel that is to take them abroad is named "Telantos", and is under the German flag. The Manager of this emigration is named Benavides. The placards that are put up all over the streets follow the well-known method of those who wish to entice immigrants under false promises. In reading them my staff were not able to contain their astonishment. (Although?)

2/ Although Brazil concluded a Treaty with China in 1881, no Diplomatic or Consular Representatives have been appointed on either side.

If Brazil desires to obtain emigrants (from China) she should make application to the Tung-li Camen, and only begin operations when a clear understanding had been arrived at.

How can Brazil privately, on her own authority merely, collect Chinese subjects as if she were buying ~~up~~ animals to sell them again?

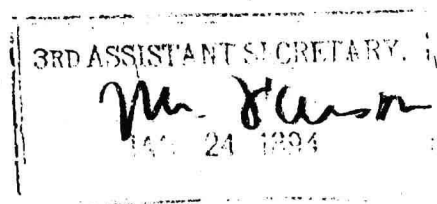
Such action is both contrary to Treaty and International Law. Properly I should give orders for the immediate arrest of these men. But as Macao is ~~not~~ present under the jurisdiction of Portugal, I must at once request you to order an investigation into this matter, and to forbid such proceedings under heavy penalties.

I shall certainly instruct the Commissioner of Customs at Lappa to detain the ship for enquiry after she has started.

I have &c

Dated about 10 October 1893.

No. 260.



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, November 1. 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

~~Oct. 9. 1894~~

SUBJECT:

Rent.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Diagram, answers, and remarks, as resumed
by Circular of Sept. 12. 1893

Mr Strobel:

If the consul will pay
the \$90. we can pay the \$400.
That is a liberal allowance.

W.E.A.

So marked
S. H. J.

No. 260

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, November 1st 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in compliance with instructions in Circular of the Department of State dated September 12th 1893, to transmit plan of the premises occupied by the United States Consulate in Canton, with the following statements required under the four several divisions indicated in said Circular. 1/A

1.
Under a lease dated May 1. 1893, with the Agent for the Estate of Thomas Blanch Brown, for two years, with the

2/

privilege of five years, I can paying
 annual rent equal to \$490.45 U.S.,
 at the present time a buying value of the
 Mexican silver dollar, for the entire
 premises embraced within the accompa-
 nying plan thereof; thereby restricting
 the rent to the lowest possible cost
 for premises suited to the purposes
 of this Consulate and its requirements,
 instead of expending the full sum of
 seven hundred (\$700.00) authorized, which
 would secure premises large enough for
 a commodious residence, which I do not
 require, on account of the inability of my
 wife to reside permanently at Canton, owing
 to climatic influences which, with rare
 exceptions, are so enervating as to compel
 foreigners to seek cooler countries to avoid
 fevers, dysentery, liver complaint, and spleen.

11.

3

The number, dimensions, and location of the rooms paid for out of the rent allowance are indicated on the plan or diagram.

111.

The only room within the entire premises of this Consulate which is not more or less used for public purposes in connection with Consular requirements, is No. 5 on the second floor, which is a bedroom; and its occupancy as such is a public necessity, because the United States Government does not incur the expense of a watchman, or Constable, or Messenger. Every foreign Hong or business establishment, and every consulate except this, in Canton, finds it necessary to employ and maintain watchmen and guardians of their property; because of the innumerable throng of needy and destitute natives who seek opportunities to plunder, and have no scruples about it if their victims are "foreign devils". I have realized and met the necessity for vigilance and watchfulness during times of unusual disturbance, when, as Senior Counsel and as Ambassador, I have had to be on duty at all hours of the night and day.

4/

At such times official dispatches to and from native and foreign officials, and letters from and to American and other foreign residents in various parts of the city and Province, have prompt attention regardless of hours, to prevent serious results from threatened or actual outrages by natives against foreigners; and in such emergencies the Consul at Canton is in requisition by all in jeopardy. He is ^{not} to be hunted until found, but it must be known he is at his post and on duty. I have no Vice Consul either, as no one is available. Hence I have kept closely to my post as all concerned or interested will know, and it is by this unceasing vigilance that many serious outrages have been averted while the turbulent elements were successful elsewhere.

IV.

I have no other residence, as my wife has remained in America half of the time I have been in China; and passes portions of each year in Japan or other countries with friends at hotels. I am now living alone.

C 5

There is no City or port in China (except Peking) where so many high Chinese officials are stationed as in Canton; and it is of the utmost importance that their relations with Consuls should be maintained in a courteous, hospitable, and discreet manner; so that all legitimate channels and sources of communication and influence shall be unobstructed.

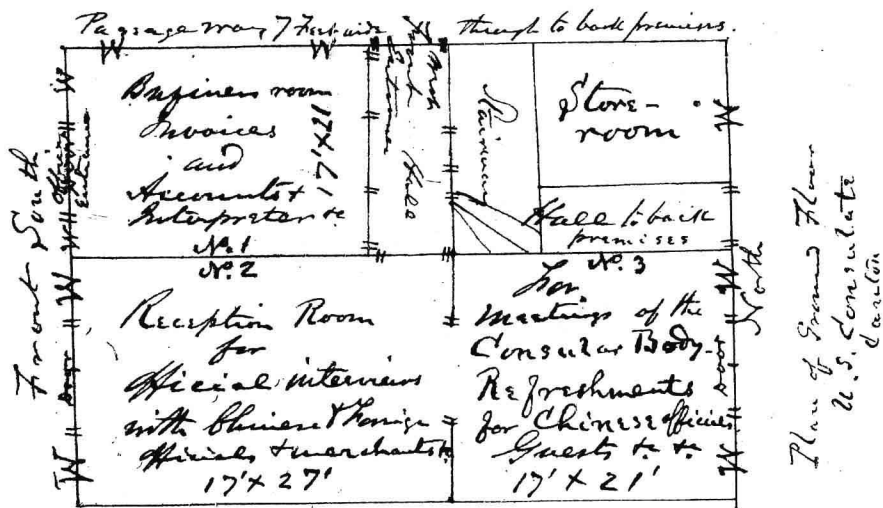
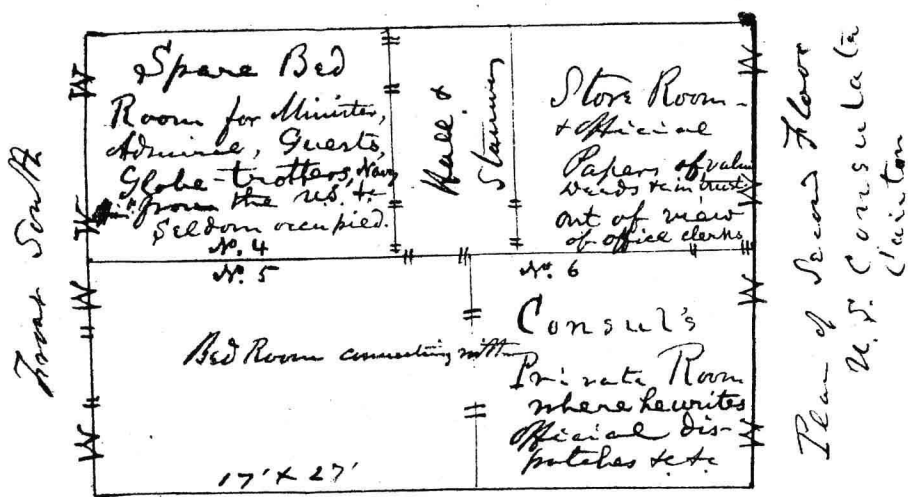
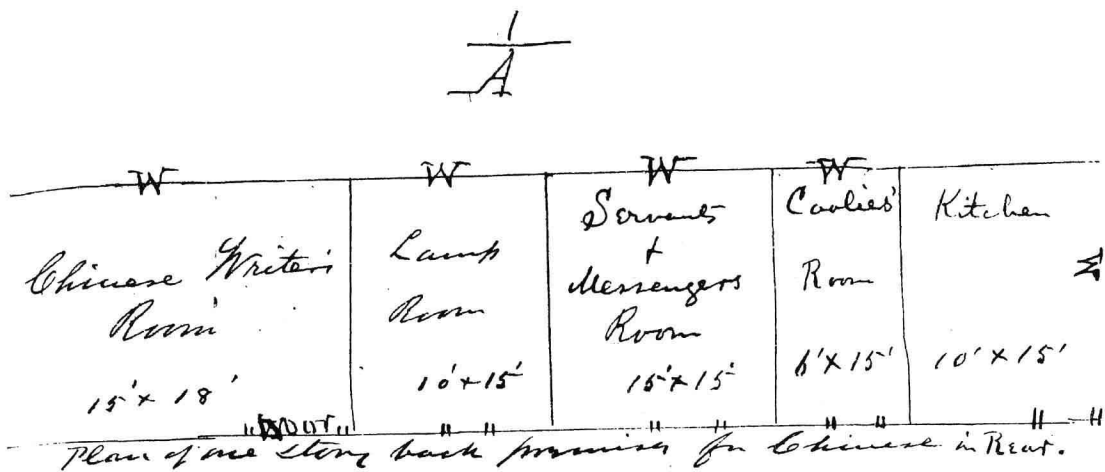
Personally, the Consul can derive no benefit, but incurs much expense, from these necessary courtesies which are productive of good results of a public and inter-national character; and therefore the obligations of official civility in this part of Asia are inseparable from the office. Several European Governments give their Consuls in China a liberal allowance for such entertainments as are deemed necessary.

Respectfully submitting these facts for consideration,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

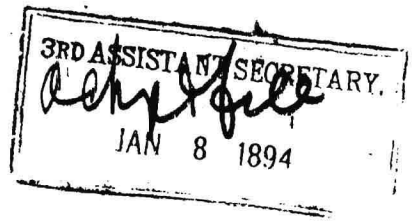
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul



No. 261



Jan. 10. 1894



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, November 28th 1893

Mr. Snyman

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Continuation of N. 259 about
Chinese emigration from Macao to Brazil*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Including Copy of Dispatch from
the Acting Governor of Macao to H. E.
the Viceroy at Canton - marked A -
hereto appended.*

No. 261

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, November 28th 1893

Honorable Josiah Quincy

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in continuation
of my dispatch No. 259, to the Department
of State, under date of October 27. 1893,
to transmit herewith (marked $\frac{1}{A}$) a
Copy of the reply sent by the Acting Governor
of Macao to His Excellency the Viceroy at
Canton, in regard to Chinese emigrants from
Macao to Brazil per German M. "Titartos",
against which the Viceroy sent a vigorous
remonstrance, as per copy accompanying
my No. 259 above mentioned.

$\frac{1}{A}$

As this correspondence between the Chinese Viceroy
and Portuguese Governor has never been published,
and came into my possession under circum-
stances which compel me to observe good-faith
in a judicious and confidential use of the same,
and as it is not desirable to close the channels
through which this information was obtained,
I respectfully ask that it may be treated
as correspondence for which there is no authorized publicity.
Of its genuineness there is no doubt. The ss. "Tataros"
went via Cape Horn
and is due Dec 6th
at Rio de Janeiro.

When it is known that the feeble little Portuguese Colony
of Macao derives its chief revenue from the sale of
the gambling monopoly to a Chinese "Tantan" syndicate,
it may reasonably be imagined that the revival of this
"Coolie-trade" or "Immigration business" is generally viewed
with favor at Macao as a valuable item of its commerce.
It is believed the "Tataros" will be followed by other
ships in the same traffic; as it is understood
that \$800. is guaranteed ^{to the "Brazilian Emigration Company"} for each coolie delivered in Brazil.
I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant.
Charles Seymour
A. S. Consul



1
A

✓

The Acting Governor of Macao
to
The Viceroy at Canton.

Dated about 15th October 1893.

Sir:

I have received Your Excellency's Dispatch dated 10th October 1893, and read it carefully. I at once gave orders to my subordinates to make careful inquiries whether the statements contained in your Dispatch were in fact accurate, in order to make a truthful reply.

Your Excellency's Station and mine are friendly States, and Your Excellency is a Viceroy of the Emperor of China; so I ought to treat you with great respect and courtesy; therefore I reply promptly to Your Dispatch.

You say that at Macao some one is putting up placards to the effect that emigrants are wanted for Europe abroad. But from the report received from my subordinates it seems that no such placards have been seen. I again advised strict search to be made, and the placards to be torn down, if any should be found; and even so not one copy could be discovered. If there were any such placards, and the author

2

could be traced, he would be punished according to law. For placards issued without the seal of authority, especially as I have prohibited the issue of placards in Macao inviting emigrants to go abroad, by reason of the fact that such placards infringe the rules under which Chinese emigrants are at present allowed to leave Macao, must have caused your great astonishment to read, of this I have no doubt. But if there do in reality exist placards like the one of which you have sent me a copy, you cannot lay the blame on the officials of Macao - For all placards issued in Macao must be published by authority in the Government Gazette.

As to your remark that two rooms for the reception of Chinese emigrants have been opened at Macao in a quiet and out-of-the-way street known as Sailors' Street, I find there is only one such house in Macao where Chinese emigrants are collected. I directed that this should be examined to see whether it was suitable, and the coolies therein were free to do as they chose; and it was reported to me that the above house was spacious and ^{an} open thoroughfare - also that the coolies could go in and out as they chose, and were in no way confined, so that neither the law nor the regulations under which Chinese emigrants were shipped abroad

had been infringed. Further the Colonial Secretary and the Chief of Police frequently visited the house to make sure that no evil practices went on there.

All Chinese residing at Macao were protected according to Treaty - of this there can be no question. Further, all Chinese emigrants leaving Macao by the German Steamship "Titantio" have been before the Colonial Secretary to be questioned one by one, and when they went on board they were again carefully questioned, and only those who said they wished to go were allowed to proceed. Those ^{who} were unwilling were not permitted to go. Everything was scrupulously done in accordance with the regulations.

With your statement that you will certainly direct the Commissioner of Customs to stop the "Titantio" after she has started, to make inquiries, I must express my feeling of great dissatisfaction. Afterwards, considering Your Excellency's conspicuous abilities and experience, I thought that you would certainly do what was safe and right, and that you would never treat my country and the flag borne by the "Titantio" with disrespect.

Because of the sincerity of our good relations with Your Excellency, I have carefully, and point by point, written this reply. I have the honor to

No. 262



3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Mr. Runkle



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, December 11 - 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Reply to Circular of July 7, 1893

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*American Salesmen needed
for sales of American goods
in Asiatic markets.*



No. 263



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, Dec. 31st 1893

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

file

SUBJECT:

Transmitting account, Vouchers, & Returns
for Quarter ended Dec 31, 1893.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Enclosure numbered 1 to 4.

No. 263

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, Dec. 31st 1893

To the

Honorable

The

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith
Accounts, Receipts, and Returns, from this Consulate,
for the month ended this day, as per assigned list.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Charles Seymour

Consul

List of enclosures viz:

1. Accounts with Vouchers.
2. Arrivals and Departures of Mail Vessels.
3. Record of Special Services.
4. Names of persons employed.

No.

264



file

hwa

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, January 4 1894



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Mr. Hung Ren Ki as Interpreter

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 264

Consulate of the United States,

Canton,

January 4 1894

To The

Honorable

The

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in continuation of my dispatch No. 258, dated October 3rd 1893, about an Interpreter for this Consulate, to state that Mr. Chen Watson, having made no use of the English language for the past ten or eleven years, found that his English vocabulary is too narrow for our requirements; and that his deficiency in the Mandarin or Official dialect of China was an obstacle to the proper performance of the duties of Interpreter. Please omit name of Interpreter in Register awhile.

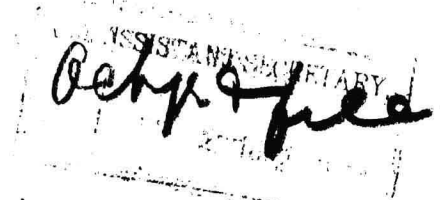
2/

Mr "Hong Tsun Ki", who studied English in the Hong Kong Schools, and has had four years of naval service in Northern China, succeeds Mr Chu Watson as Interpreter at this Consulate. Mr "Hong Tsun Ki" stood an examination in Mandarin conversation by a competent Chinese scholar in my presence; and although he has not such a thorough "knowledge of English as was acquired by the Chinese students in Yale College, I regard him as the best qualified of the available candidates for the office of Interpreter. Hoping that a fair trial may prove his fitness for the position,

I am, Sir,
 Your obedient servant,
 Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul

No.

265



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, January 29 1894

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

FILE

SUBJECT:

Continuation of N^o. 259 and N^o. 261
on Chinese "Immigration" or "Coolie trade."

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Appended $\frac{1}{B}$ and $\frac{2}{B}$

No. 265

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, January 29 1894

The

Honorable

The

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith additional particulars in
regard to the Chinese "emigration"
from Macao to Brazil; in continuation
of my dispatches - No. 259 dated 27th
October 1893, and No. 261 dated 28th
November 1893; accompanied by copies
of correspondence between His Ex-
cellency the Viceroy of the Two Kiangs
(Kwangtung and Kwangsi), and the
Acting Governor of Macao.

2
1
B

Hereto appended, and marked $\frac{1}{B}$, will be found Copy of correspondence between the Governors of Hong Kong and Macao, (as published in the China Mail of January 23^d 1894, and in other English newspapers in Hong Kong,) on the same subject.

2
B

Also please find hereto appended, and marked $\frac{2}{B}$, Copy of the Editorial article of the Hong Kong Press of the 25th January 1894, commenting on the correspondence last mentioned.

From these dispatches of the British and Portuguese Colonial Governors, it is evident that both desire to secure, for the benefit of their respective Colonies, the extension of Chinese Coolie "Emigration".

3

The closing paragraph in the dispatch of the Portuguese Governor indicates a purpose or desire to "secure the removal of all restrictions" on Chinese emigration; and the closing paragraph of the British Governor expresses solicitude that "the despatch of those emigrants by the 'Tataros' may lead the Chinese Authorities to discourage coolie emigration in general."

If either of these Colonial Governors are restrained by moral compunctions from efforts to develop the "Coolie trade" for the benefit of Hong Kong or Macao, the fact is concealed in their dispatches; but with the light thrown upon the subject by the article of the Hong Kong Press, it appears that an experienced and influential official of the Colony of Hong Kong, who is a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils of that Colony, now in England, has been unsuccessful in an

4

effort to obtain from the Imperial Government (or Foreign Office thereof) consent for the removal or relaxation of existing restrictions upon this "Coolie trade" or "emigration business"; to prevent its monopoly by Macao, or discontinuance by the Chinese authorities.

The Hong Kong journalists do not seem to be yet in possession of the fact that the subject has been treated by official correspondence between H.K. the Viceroy of Canton and H.K. the Acting Governor of Macao.

In the meantime Brazilian officials are in China, awaiting the result of pending difficulties in Brazil, before entering upon their deputed mission at Peking, for the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Brazil, with special reference to facilitating "coolie trade" between Macao and Brazil.

5

It is a significant fact that ^{one of} the most active and interested persons in this new movement for the revival and renewal of this "Coolie trade" or Chinese "Emigration to Brazil" from Macao, is a person in Hong Kong named Romano, who is a merchant, and Consul General of Portugal, and Consul of Brazil, at that port.

It is stated, and doubtless truthfully, that about eight hundred dollars ~~was~~ obtained from the employers or purchasers of this Coolie labor in Brazil, for each coolie; and that the promoters of the scheme pay a liberal allowance to each of their active agents and assistants for every coolie thus delivered to "The Brazilian Emigration Company".

I have reason to believe the German Minister at Peking called to his Government in Berlin, and asked that the German S.S. "Potosi" might be investigated by German Officials at Rio de Janeiro, before landing her cargo of coolies.

67

But it is possible that German ship-owners may ask their Government to not embarrass them while engaged in competition with British ships for a remunerative "carrying trade," between the two "sister Countries" of Portugal and Brazil with their consent and encouragement.

The facts herein set forth will be sent to the Minister of the United States at Peking, as I am sure he will regard them with interest.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Ferguson.

M. L. Ferguson

Postscript.

Since writing the above I have learned that the Agent of the "Anglo-Brazilian Emigration Company" at Moscow, Mr. Bonaville, has closed his Agency, because of the unsatisfactory condition of affairs in Brazil, and loss of the Company by litigation, numerous pending delays of various kinds, &c. &c. and returned to Brazil.



CHINA MAIL. —JANUARY 23, 1894.]

EMIGRATION FROM MACAO TO BRAZIL.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE GOVERNORS OF MACAO AND HONGKONG.

On the 12th December last the Governor of Macao wrote to the Governor of Hongkong calling His Excellency's attention to a certain allusion to 'the neighbouring colony' made by His Excellency in his speech at the opening of the Legislative Council and asking for an assurance that Macao was not the colony referred to.

Sir William Robinson replied as follows:—

Government House,
Hongkong, 27th December 1893.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 12th instant, in which Your Excellency calls my attention to certain words used by me in my speech on the occasion of the re-assembling of the Legislative Council of Hongkong on the 4th instant.

The passage in question is as follows:—

'I am, as you are probably aware, anxious that a well organised system of emigration to certain countries friendly with England should be adopted. Such a scheme would be of great advantage, not merely to this colony but to thousands of industrious persons in China who have now but little opportunity of making a living or even obtaining the barest necessities of life. It is unfortunate that the Chinese Government do not seem to view the matter in this light, and no doubt recent events in the neighbouring colony will tend to confirm them in the opinions they are believed to entertain on this subject.'

Your Excellency desires me to make it clear that the neighbouring colony to which I referred was not that under the Government of Your Excellency, and you base your request upon your conviction that no events have occurred in Macao which could have given rise to the language referred to.

It is always a pleasure to me to comply, as far as I am able to do so, with the wishes of Your Excellency, and I therefore much regret that on the present occasion I must inform Your Excellency that in my speech I certainly had in my mind the circumstances connected with the steamer *Tetartos* and the recent despatch of coolie emigrants from Macao to Brazil.

Your Excellency is doubtless aware that the steamer *Tetartos* would not in the circumstances have been permitted to take those emigrants from this colony to Brazil, and that, especially in the disturbed condition of that country, the Chinese authorities are not likely to view with approbation the transport thither of a number of Chinese subjects.

It would at present, I fear, be difficult to convince those authorities that arrangements exist for ensuring the protection and well-being of those coolies in Brazil.

It seems to me, therefore, that the despatch of those emigrants by the steamer *Tetartos* may lead the Chinese authorities to discourage coolie emigration in general even to places to which hitherto no objection has been taken, a discouragement I should sincerely regret, having regard to the interests of all concerned.—I have the honour to be, sir, Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor, etc., etc.

His Excellency the Governor of Macao,
etc., etc., etc.

Senhor Borja thereupon wrote another letter, of which the following is a rough translation:—

Macao, 8th January, 1894.

Most Excellent and Illustrious Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's official letter No. 177 G. of the 27th December last.

Your Excellency is pleased to tell me that in your speech in the Legislative Council of Hongkong on the 4th December last you had in your mind the circumstances connected with the recent departure of Chinese emigrants from Macao to Brazil by the steamer *Tetartos*.

The circumstances to which Your Excellency refers—which certainly could not have taken place in the colony under Your Excellency's administration because the Government of Her Britannic Majesty prohibits the departure of Chinese emigrants to ports other than British—Your Excellency will find set out at length in the official documents published in the *Government Boletim* of this province, No. 50, dated 16th December last, a copy of which, for Your Excellency's information, I forward herewith.

I do not believe that the departure of Chinese passengers by the steamer *Tetartos* from Macao for Brazil, which, as Your Excellency knows, is a sister country to Portugal and one in which the Chinese referred to will find the most complete conditions of complete security and freedom, notwithstanding the disturbances and dissensions which at present prevail in a part of the country—I do not believe, permit me to say, Your Excellency, that the despatch can or could have the effect of disinclining the Chinese authorities to the emigration of Chinese subjects in general, since it appears that the immigration of Chinese at Singapore, for example, is not falling off, as is shown by the Report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the state of labour in the Straits Settlements and Protected Native States in 1891, and Your Excellency in the speech already referred to which you made in the Legislative Council on the 4th December, speaking of emigration to Singapore, said:—'During the past ten months, i.e., from the 1st January to 31st October, emigration has considerably improved. The number of emigrants has been 78,275 as against 43,024 during the same period in 1892.'

However, if I find that the recent departure of 474 Chinese passengers by the *Tetartos* from Macao is in any way misunderstood by the Chinese authorities I give Your Excellency my guarantee that in my capacity of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Most Faithful Majesty to the Court of Peking, I shall not hesitate a moment in proceeding to remove whatever fears may exist in the mind of the *Tsung-li Yamen* and will co-operate with Your Excellency in endeavouring to secure the removal of all restrictions on Chinese emigration.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest consideration, Your Excellency's most obedient servant.

CUSTODIO M. DE BORJA,
Governor.

His Excellency Sir William Robinson,
K.C.M.G., Governor of the Colony of Hongkong.

(Continued)

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Corrections.

The China Mail of January 27th 1894, undertook to make a correction of the dispatch from the Governor of Macao to the Governor of Hongkong by stating that the word "apprehensions" should be substituted for the word "restrictions" near the end of the dispatch; but as that "correction" is incorrect, I have obtained the following literal translation of the last paragraph of fourteen lines in the dispatch of the Governor of Macao, as printed in the Portuguese newspapers in Macao:—

(C. S.)

"Nevertheless, if I could convince myself that the recent despatch of 474 Chinese passengers for 'Tartar' from the port of Macao will come distorted, as to the manner in which it was effected, to the knowledge of the Chinese authorities, I can assure Your Excellency that I would in my capacity of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His most Faithful Majesty to the Court of Peking, not hesitate a moment in endeavouring to destroy in the mind of the Tsung li Yamen my apprehensions which might perchance suggest themselves to them, and which might effectively conduce to the discouragement of Chinese emigration (a thing which) I fear in the interest of all concerned, & which it is most expedient in truth to prevent by all possible means."

2
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X

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 25TH, 1894.

THE correspondence which has passed between the Governors of Hongkong and Macao with reference to the departure of a number of coolies by the steamer *Tetartos* for Brazil, while amusing in its personal aspect, is also suggestive of grave considerations with reference to the general question of Chinese emigration. As is well known, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON was desirous that emigration from Hongkong to Brazil should be established and the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART was sent to England to confer with the Colonial Office on the subject. There was also an idea that he might afterwards proceed to Rio de Janeiro should the home Government approve. But while the British Authorities were leisurely considering the subject the Macao Government was willing to permit the emigration to take place forthwith, and the *Tetartos* accordingly left with the first shipment. This did not prove agreeable to His Excellency of Hongkong, and in his speech at the opening of the session of the Legislative Council he referred to "recent events in the neighbouring colony" as tending to confirm the Chinese Government "in the opinions they are believed to entertain on this subject," i.e., emigration to foreign countries. Thereupon the Governor of Macao wrote to Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON asking him to make it clear that the neighbouring colony referred to was not Macao, because no events had occurred there which could justify such language. In reply Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON had to state that he had in his mind, when using the words in question, the circumstances connected with the steamer *Tetartos* and the recent despatch of coolie emigrants from Macao to Brazil. Seeing that His Excellency was himself desirous that emigration should take place from Hongkong to Brazil, which "would be of great advantage, not merely to this Colony, but to thousands of industrious persons in China who have now but little opportunity of making a living, or of even obtaining the barest necessities of life," it might at first sight seem difficult to understand what ground of objection there could be to the emigration taking place from Macao except that the one Colony instead of the other derived the profit resulting therefrom. So far as we have heard, there were no discreditable circumstances connected with the recruiting of the emigrants who left by the *Tetartos*, or at all events not more than seem to be inseparable from the emigration trade, for even in connection with the emigration from Hongkong to Singapore cases of kidnapping and false representations are not unfrequently brought to light in the Police Court. The "circumstances" to which

THE HONGKONG DA

His Excellency referred must therefore have been of a different nature. As is well known, His Excellency was desirous that the emigration should take place from this Colony under a sort of triangular agreement between China, Great Britain, and Brazil, under which a guarantee should be provided for the proper treatment of the emigrants on their arrival in the last named country, and presumably it was the fact that the emigration had taken place from Macao without any such guarantee that he took exception to. Senhor BORJA, on the other hand, affects to regard emigration from Macao to Brazil as being on much the same footing as emigration from Hongkong to Singapore; as emigration is permitted from Hongkong to British possessions, why should it not be permitted from Macao to Brazil, which he terms a sister country of Portugal? Well, a country in a state of civil war can hardly be regarded as a desirable field for emigration, but that is a matter for China, Portugal, and Brazil to settle between them and in which this Colony can scarcely claim to have a voice. If abuses sprang up similar to those which characterised the coolie trade to Peru, doubtless there would be occasion for a protest not only from Hongkong but from the civilised world; but it is hardly for this Colony to assume that such abuses are going to spring up and to play the rôle of Exeter Hall in the matter.

Whether emigration should be permitted from Hongkong to non-British countries is another question, but it is quite clear that under no circumstances could the British Government assume responsibility for the good treatment of the emigrants to such countries. That it should ever have entered into the head of the Governor that such a thing might be possible must occasion no little surprise. Indeed the desire of His Excellency to promote emigration to Brazil in particular is altogether inexplicable. If it was considered good policy to actively encourage the emigration trade and to send an emissary abroad for that purpose, it would have been wiser to have given attention to those portions of the British empire standing in need of an influx of cheap labour, more particularly British Guiana and the West Indian Islands. Had Mr. LOCKHART's mission been sent in that direction it is within the bounds of possibility that some good might have been effected, though we are inclined to think the policy of the Hongkong Government with regard to emigration should rather be one of neutrality than of active encouragement.

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Naturally the colony will be glad to derive whatever profit is to be made from any emigration trade that may spring up naturally and be of reputable character, but as we can have no interest except a pecuniary one in the matter, not having any surplus population of our own to consider or provide for it would savour of undignified touting for the Government to go out of its way to find new fields for Chinese emigration. And in view of the abuses that characterised the coolie trade in former days, the home Government decided that contract emigration should not be permitted from this colony elsewhere than to British colonies. That decision was applauded by Hongkong at the time it was arrived at and we do not know that there is any occasion to quarrel with it now. Considerations of humanity can hardly be disregarded nor can we ignore the fact that emigrants are as a rule extremely ignorant of the countries to which they proceed, easily imposed upon, and very helpless if they happen to fall upon inhospitable ground. It is only a year or two ago since the British Government had occasion to issue formal notices warning intending emigrants against proceeding to one of the South American countries—Argentina, if we remember rightly—in view of the unhappy state of those who had already proceeded there, and that being the case it could not consistently take any part in the promotion of Chinese emigration to a country not dissimilar in its circumstances, merely for the sake of a pecuniary profit to Hongkong. It is understood that as soon as Mr. LOCKHART stated his business to the Colonial Office the proposals of the Hongkong Government were peremptorily and emphatically disallowed, which is precisely what might have been expected.

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No. 266



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 7 1897



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

FILE

SUBJECT:

"Emigration" or "Coolie Trade".

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Transmitting printed matter
concerning Chinese Coolies
for Brazilian markets.

No. 266

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 7 - 1894

Honorable Edwin F. Ahl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith, as appended and ¹/_A
marked ¹/_A, printed copy of
the Rio de Janeiro Jornal do Commercio,
report of the arrival and distribution
of Chinese Coolies from Macao for
St. Estevao; respecting which
my dispatches to the Department
of State, numbered 259 & 261, with
their inclosures, supplied many
particulars.

From the tone of the Brazilian Journal's statements, which were republished in Hong Kong papers, with the evident purpose of stimulating a desire among Chinese to emigrate to Brazil, it seems that this "Coolie trade" is popular in Brazil; and it is reasonable to expect efforts will be made for its expansion and continuance.

1/2 Appended and marked ²B will be found a short and pungent Editorial from the Hong Kong Telegraph on the "Coolie Traffic"; and Copy of Official Notice of a Chinese Customs Commission against "Coolie emigration to Brazil."

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour

H. S. Seymour

The same matter
mailed to U.S. Legation

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THE CHINA MAIL Feb 13. 1894

CHINESE LABOUR IN BRAZIL.

The Rio de Janeiro *Jornal do Commercio*, under date 25th December, 1893, publishes a long account of the arrival of the Chinese emigrants at that destination, who, it will be remembered, formed the first batch of Asiatic labourers sent to Brazil by the s. s. *Tetartus* in connection with immigration in that country. The following is a rough translation of the article referred to:—

It was some days since that we announced the arrival of 475 Asiatic labourers who were sent for by Dr. Porciuncula as a trial and in terms of a contract which the State of Rio de Janeiro has entered into for the establishment of a Chinese Colony in Brazil. As we have said this batch of men set out for Macabé with a view to landing at the port of Imbeliba, whence they were to proceed to the Government depot in Cabiunas. When settled there they were to be distributed among the various agriculturists. Their landing at that port was effected on the 11th instant, and being divided into two companies were subsequently transported by rail by way of Macabé and Campos, a branch of the Frade.

The Cabiunas depot is situated in an excellent locality, has good accommodations and spacious grounds attached, enclosed within the two canals of Macabé and Campos, which, as will be seen later, are of great advantage to the Asiatics. The old buildings were seasonably repaired and are in the best of condition from a sanitary point of view. The habits and practices of the coolies of this nationality not having been hitherto known, it was discovered only after being acquainted with these men that part of the furniture and utensils which have already been provided for them is really of no necessity, as will also be seen presently. In the dining halls of their lodging place there were placed, after the European or American style, tables, chairs, knives, forks and spoons; but the Chinese can do perfectly well without them.

These 475 men do not in the least resemble the Chinese we have seen now for some years accustomed to see hawkling fish about the streets of the capital with a bamboo pole on their shoulder and baskets hanging down from each end of it; and it was also not a very uncommon sight to see them being taken up by the police for fowling. Of these relics we have still a few, some thin and emaciated and others avowed by fortune living in very comfortable conditions of life.

This first batch that has just come to the State of Rio de Janeiro can almost be said to be a select set of men; they are strong, healthy and comparatively robust. They are of a regular stature, but some are above the middle height; they are of a pleasing appearance, and as to a good few, to judge from their looks one might be in doubt whether they were of the sterner sex or not. There could at once be seen in their faces the evident satisfaction they felt at having arrived at their destination, and they all appeared happy and well disposed to enter into any relations. They are very capable, full of vivacity and intelligence, and know how to read and write in their native language—a fact which favours to a great extent Chinese civilisation. Their padmen can talk a little English, thereby rendering easier intercourse between them and our agriculturists. They are also aided by interpreters,—one of them, so we hear, has already been so engaged.

The 475 men are of two different tribes, the Pundi and the Hakka, 103 of whom belong to the former and the rest to the latter district. In their physiognomy it is impossible to tell the difference between each other; but the men themselves have a desire to establish their racial difference by mutually declining intercourse with each other. In dividing these men among the agriculturists the greatest caution has to be exercised in so setting them apart that one man of a particular tribe is not associated with those of the other. Each farmer had to content himself with men of one clan only. He could not take over to his farm the exact number of men to which he was entitled; one was allotted a few men more than he wanted and another a few less owing to the fact that these classes are again split up into several minor groups, and those belonging to one lot will have nothing to do with those of another. It appears that those subdivisions represent so many villages or places of which the men are natives.

It will be seen how strong is their brotherly feeling from an instance we will now quote. Twenty coolies were allotted to a farmer, and the remaining two of that group (originally 22 in number) began to weep so piteously and tacitly though eloquently expressing their supplications, that the farmer yielding to the request of the Minister of State accepted 22 men instead of 20. It may here be mentioned the Minister of State went in person to direct the transportation, accommodation and allotment of the men.

They dress themselves in a plain fashion and in a very orderly manner. They make their own hats and shoes, and observe cleanliness to such a degree that before they retire to sleep they wash the soles of their shoes, which are put out in the open air and left to dry by the following morning.

On reaching Cabiunas the joy and admiration the men felt in beholding the picturesqueness of the scenery as they went on in their journey was very manifest. They saw the canal running along the margin of the land circumventing their lodging place and the rushing stream of water—an indispensable element to them—in which they bathe twice a day. They did not hesitate to divest themselves of their clothing and plunge into the water. They had previously, however, washed their clothes and put them out in the sun to dry, and by this same natural process they allowed their bodies to dry also after their bath.

The manner in which they look to the stream at once proved the happy choice of Cabiunas as a lodging place for the Chinese.

Nevertheless, notwithstanding that the proximity of the canal does not make up sufficiently for the want of potable water. We noted this when we visited the locality in February last in company with the President of the State. The want just alluded to has since been made up to a certain extent by the improvement of the spring whence the water is obtained, it being then very much discoloured. Macabé has not a very abundant supply of good potable water, the city itself being dependent for its supply upon a private fountain, and the distribution is made by means of carts drawn by oxen, the water being contained in open casks. In spite of this the choice of this place for the Chinese immigrants appears to be a right one, inasmuch as it has given them the best impression possible, and that in this place or in the natural aspect of the country around them they are reminded of the land of their birth.

Their curiosity is manifested in a very intelligent manner by asking, through their interpreters, the names of everything they saw that was new to them and which attracted their attention. They then made notes of what was told them in small books, made of rice paper, and at the same time compiled, as it were, a glossary of Luso-Chinese words most commonly in use. Such a practice will certainly help them to an easier acquisition of our language.

As the convenience of the canal bordering the environs of the depot was at once proved by the fact of the immigrants bathing in it immediately on their arrival, so also did they make it clear how superfluous were tables, chairs, forks and knives as commodities to them.

Their staple food is rice. Meat, fish and fowl are all done in some sort of a soup with spice, lard or oil, which they use very sparingly. Tea is the beverage they take with their food, which can hardly be considered sufficient or nourishing enough. This denial in a great measure is what deprives them of the strength a good labourer ought to have.

The coolies, as we have observed, are robust, even corpulent, in comparison with the men of this nationality we have known; but the strength of their arms is not what one might expect from their physical appearance. It was told us by Dr. Barros Franco, a state deputy and farmer, that having lifted 2 bags of coffee one in each hand, in the presence of the Chinese, he invited the men to perform the same feat. The strongest among them could only manage to lift one of the bags. It is true, however, that our informant's physical power is not one commonly met with.

Scattering the tables, chairs and utensils about, they issued forth from the house in groups of 4 and 6, and squatting round the one dish common to all they began to help themselves to their frugal repast with the aid of their chopsticks which they handle in such admirable style and with a degree of cleanliness that is not often seen among the labouring class of any other nationality.

The Secretary of Public Works to the State of Rio, Dr. Joaquim Guedes de Moraes Sarmento, to whose credit is due the initiation of the new Chinese colonisation scheme in this state,—a tentative effort was made with the same object some years ago but under rather ill direction,—having proceeded to Macabé with this express purpose, asked through the headmen, who could speak English, every detail that to them appeared necessary for the continuance of the immigration. He further inquired into every means for maintaining the well-being of the new-comers, and asked them to write to their relatives and friends and give them a full account of their new home.

With the promptitude characteristic of them the Chinese at once began to ask, in their turn, for information as to how they were to address their letters, and in what manner it would be best for them to advise those who would send replies thereto. They began to take notes as Dr. Sarmento proceeded to give the information asked for. The men appeared eager to begin their series of correspondence as soon as it could be done.

The allotment having been made to the agriculturists who had previously applied for the men, and who were present at the depot, the several groups set out for their respective destinations. Both in their manner and in their language the men were evidently very thankful to the Minister of State who, indeed, has spared himself no pains, and was most solicitous for the comfort and careful in the distribution of the men, the nucleus of Chinese colonisation sanctioned by decree by the present Legislative Assembly of the State, and which the President Dr. Porciuncula has had the good fortune of seeing realised.

We have heard from some of the farmers who had taken some of the Chinese to their estates that the men had set to work with a will, and it would seem that good results are in store for them. Among this group they elected their own chief and cook, who is held to be an indispensable person for looking after the originalities of their cuisine.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1894.

COOLIE TRAFFIC.

From an official notification in another part of this issue it will be seen that the Chinese Government distinctly refuses to countenance coolie emigration to Brazil; and the Customs authorities have been instructed to publish a reminder that under the law any clandestine trade renders the vessel so engaged liable to forfeiture, together with her cargo. There is no uncertainty about this. The *Tisaris* business was rightly regarded by Europeans and Chinese alike as an outrage, little short of kidnapping; for it was a deliberate and cunningly-planned trap for ignorant and poverty-driven coolies. Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, Governor of Hongkong, denounced it in only too polite terms; the late Governor of Macao, Capt. DA BORJA, equally politely protested, affecting surprise that the affair could be so considered. But there is no longer room for him or anybody else to doubt what the Chinese think; and the Chinese will probably not make such a bungle of a case as the Crown Prosecutor and the Special Jurors (save the mark!) did in Hongkong. Senhor BENAVIDES has done well to clear out from the Far East; Mr. STEWART-LOCKHART and "BROWNIE" had better follow him.

CHINESE CUSTOMS NOTIFICATION.

THE Undersigned has been instructed to remind all concerned that CLANDESTINE TRADE along the Coast is a Violation of Law and subjects Vessel and Cargo to seizure and confiscation, and to add that by this Law it is forbidden to COLLECT COOLIES anywhere except at Treaty Ports. The Undersigned has further to state that Coolie Emigration to Brazil is not permitted.

ALFRED E. HIPPISELY,
Commissioner of Customs
for the Lappa District.

Custom House,
Lappa, 21st February, 1894.

[279]

Lappa is near Macao.

No. 267



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 31st 1894



Seymour

To the Department of State.

file

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Account, Vouchers, and
Returns for Quarter ended March 31, 1894.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

With inclosures as per list.

No. 267

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, March 21st 1894.

Honorable Edwin D. Well

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith
Account, Vouchers, and Returns from this Consulate
for the Quarter ended 31st Dec, as per subjoined list.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

Enclosures:

1. Account with Vouchers.
2. Arrivals & Dep'ts of Vessels.
3. Record of Notarial Services.



No. 268



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, May 19th 1894

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

Enclosure to Treasury
June 27. 1894

SUBJECT:

Increasing price lists of Canton Mdz.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 268

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, May 19th 1899

Honorable Edwin T. Mhl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith
price lists of No. 3 sent from this branch
District to the United States: ($\frac{1}{A}$ and $\frac{2}{B}$) $\frac{1}{A} \cdot \frac{2}{B}$

One of these lists was prepared by a No. 1
British firm of Commission Merchants;
and the other by a No. 1 German firm,
whom I have always found straight
and correct.

The prices given are
those quoted by large Chinese Dealers,
who supply foreign Merchants at

Canton with Mr. J. for Merchants
in the United States and Europe, who
import goods from various countries for
sale to retail Dealers.

These prices are subject
to fluctuations; but at present are
reliable quotations.

I am unable to give you food
prices, as I know of no firm
here sending food supplies to America.

A similar communication is this
day mailed to the Collector of Customs
at the Ports of San Francisco and New York,
for the U.S. Appraisers at those Ports;
and this dispatch (with inclosure)
is designed for the information of the Board
of U.S. General Appraisers; agreeably
with No. 164 of March 24th 1894 from
Department of State.

Yours, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

No. 269



*Copy to M.H.S.
July 20, 1894*

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 2nd 1894

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

"The Plague".

M.H.S.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

The Plague.

"Plague" items from the Hong Kong Telegraph of May 30, 1894, give the following facts.

Also the following from Macao.

It is notified that the Messageries Maritimes mail steamer *Natal*, leaving Hongkong for Europe to-morrow, will take neither passengers nor cargo from this port, with a view to avoiding quarantine in ports of call.

The homeward-bound German mail steamer *Preussen* arrived here this morning from Shanghai and with a view to avoiding detention at ports of call en route to Europe anchored in Kowloon Bay. In common with the French mails she took hence neither cargo nor passengers, and left a few hours after arrival.

Latest news from Canton is to the effect that although the plague is claiming less victims in that city than has been the case for weeks past, yet it is causing sad havoc in towns and villages to the northward and westward of the City of Rams.

The *Boletim Oficial* of Macao publishes a notification regarding the epidemic; the supply of fresh water in the poorer districts is to be maintained with the greatest possible energy, the drains of the city are to be sluiced daily, especially in the most crowded Chinese quarters, the streets are all to be watered daily, all vessels coming from Canton or Hongkong are to be closely inspected and rigorously quarantined if found infected. All householders, Chinese or otherwise, are ordered to keep their premises in a perfectly clean and sanitary condition, and open to inspection by the sanitary authorities, under heavy penalties.

No. 269

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, June 2nd 1894

Honorable Edwin D. Muhl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that during the months of March, April, and May, of the present year, there has been, (as reported to the Secretary of the Treasury, for U. S. Marine Hospital Bureau) in Canton, and several Districts in the interior of this Province of Kwangtung, a "Plague", designated as the "Chinese Plague", the "bubonic plague", and the "black plague"; and has caused a great loss of human lives among natives.

2/

It is estimated that one ten thousand natives have died in Canton from the "Plague"; the mortality ranging from 75 to 80 per cent of cases during the first half of the time; and from 25 to 50 per cent of cases during the last month or six weeks.

The "plague" has appeared in Hong Kong, and does not seem to be yet under control there; although the impression prevails that the disease is less malignant, and is diminishing, in Canton, since the long drought was broken by the copious rains of the past month; which have done much to clean the stagnant drains and canals, that had become stagnant and putrid, after half a year of drought.

It is a significant fact that in those portions of Canton where the

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ordinary tides, with a rise and fall of about six feet, have kept the drains free, there have been few or no cases of the "plague".

In a level City like Canton, with a population approaching two millions, the drains being located in the middle of the narrow streets, and having no outlet except through the Canals leading to the river, choked, in the absence of rains for several months. The flat stones of the street conceal the drains.

In Hong Kong, where there should be no difficulty about flushing the drains with sea-water, there seems to be a system of crowding in the native districts; where each story of a lodging house is subdivided into cock-lofts, each being from four to five feet in height.

"Blood-poison" seems to be result in either case; and this is said by best medical men to be the nature of the disease.

When the plague was worst in Canton, thousands of natives fled to Hong Kong.

4

During the last half of May there has been a similar rush of natives from Hong Kong to Canton and interior places.

The drastic measures adopted by the Hong Kong Authorities to stamp out the plague caused all fugitives to circulate rumors of cruelty toward natives; and this has led to such prevalent excitement and indignation among the natives in Canton and surrounding country as to cause the Chinese Authorities this week to issue tranquilizing Proclamations.

The disease first throws the victim into high fever, quickly followed by lumps of the size of a hen's egg in the groin, or under the arm-pits, or in the neck; and if not controlled or relieved by treatment, the patient after two days, falls into a convulsive condition, and dies.

As yet no distinct remedy has been found. Everything continues in mild confusion. Business is almost suspended.

5

I have been in nearly all parts of Canton during this plague, and have remained at my post through it all; and am persuaded that with the observance of proper precautions, especially in securing supply of pure water for cooking and washing; and for flushing drains in times of drought; there should and would be no such thing as this "Plague", except where natives, in congested localities, cause pollution of air by over-crowding and filth, and violation of sanitary conditions for safety. During all of this "Plague", heathen processions have constantly marched through the streets of Canton throughout the night, pounding gongs, exploding fire-crackers, exposing idols, and other similar doings, supported by contributions from the shops and stores, to propitiate the evil spirits, and to disperse the adverse element.

I am, Sir,
 Your obedient servant,
 Charles Seymour.
 Consul General

No. 270

*Copy to M.S.
July 20. 1894*

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 6th 1894

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Canton and Hong Kong as infected
ports.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 270

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 6th 1894

Honorable Edwin T. Whel

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you, in continuation of my No. 269, dated 2nd instant, that the Asiatic or bubonic plague has assumed a more serious character in Hong Kong where already about one thousand deaths have occurred; and notwithstanding the plague was diminishing in Canton since the middle of May up to the end of that month, there is a reasonable prospect that it will not improve here while so many sick and dying natives are brought from Hong Kong.

2/

In my dispatch No. 269 reference was made to the excitement and indignation among the natives, which elicited tranquillising Proclamations from the Chinese Authorities. It is almost always certain that a Chinaman will do everything differently from foreigners; and in this Plague at and between Canton and Hong Kong, the Chinese Authorities urged that natives of China in Hong Kong should be free to return to their native country where they could be under treatment of native doctors, and if the victims of the disease could not survive, they might not die among strangers; but have the care and attention of relatives and friends, and have decent burial. The Hong Kong Government and people seemed delighted with compliance with the Viceroy's wishes; and accordingly thousands of natives fled from Hong Kong to Canton and various places in the interior.

3

There are many steamers, launches, and junks, running between Canton and Hong Kong, and between Hong Kong and various places in the Province of Kwangtung.

On Monday morning 4th instant, three river steamers from Hong Kong arrived at Canton with sick, and dying, and dead persons on board. Eight of the native passengers died on the way up from Hong Kong; and on Tuesday 5th instant, two steamers brought in four dead; and on Wednesday 6th instant, three of the river steamers brought five dead, and many plague-stricken passengers. And these same steamboats take back from Canton to Hong Kong supplies of food; and some *medz*, although the shipments of *medz* just now are not large.

The disease has stricken down a few Europeans in Hong Kong who assisted in the exploration and treatment of the infected district in Hong Kong.

4

It will be strange if the Europeans on the River steamers escape the plague. So, as matters are now running between these two Cities, the "Plague" is being extended; and it is impossible to predict where it will stop.

Under these circumstances, with special reference to infected cargo from Canton and Hongkong, I requested Consul Hunt of Hongkong, on 4th instant, to join me in a telegram or cablegram to the Department of State to the effect that - "Canton Hongkong Asiatic plague".

Both are treated as infected ports. The greater part of the cargoes shipped from Hongkong to Europe and America is of Chinese production, mostly from Canton; and I regard the present transportation of plague and merchandise by the same steamboats, and the existing facilities for extending the disease by infected cargo demand attention.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,
Charles Seymour
R. H. S.

No. 2



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 8th - 1894

W. Seymour

To the Department of State.

Ans. July 23, 1894

SUBJECT:

W. S. S. Agency and Agent at
Kungchow on the Island of Hainan.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 271

Consulate of the United States.

Canton, June 8th 1894

Honorable Edwin D. Phil

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that it is the desire of the American residents at Kiating Chow and vicinity, on the Island of Kaiman, that an United States Consular Agency may be established at Kiating Chow; and that the British Consul, Edward H. Parker, may be the authorized consular agent of the United States at that Port. When the U.S. Consular Agency was discontinued about ten years ago, there were American citizens residing on that Island; and there was no business between it and the United States, and there is none now, and probably there never will be. I have today asked the Legation at Peking to

Since that time several American citizens have become residents at Kiangchow, and places in the interior of the Island, and as it is a portion of the Chinese Empire where foreigners seldom enjoy even " treaty rights"; and where for nearly fifty years the British Government could not secure a site on which to erect Consular buildings; and the "Imperial Maritime Customs of China" could not for many years obtain a site even for a Customs House, the American Missionaries should have means for prompt communication with the local authorities.

Ships drawing nine or ten feet of water cannot approach Kiangchow nearer than about four miles. Landings are made in flat boats, drawn by coolies over mud flats, to the port of "Hikow" or Kiangchow." I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
Consul

No. 272



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 27th 1894

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

Recd Aug 20. 1894

SUBJECT:

Mobs, Outrages, pestilence,

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Mob in Honam side of Canton, with outrages.

Outrages at several places of the interior.

Spread of the Asiatic plague.

Excitement among the natives.

Villainous placards against foreigners.

consul reports nothing
 at China & an assault
 upon two American Missionaries.
 He reported the matter to
 the Viceroy who took immediate
 steps to punish the offenders.
 The consular action seems
 to have been prompt &
 in acknowledging this I
 think it should be approved.



No. 272

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 27th 1894

Honorable Edwin F. Webb

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the natives in Canton, in the Province of Kwangtung, and in Hong Kong having become frantic and intensely excited against foreigners, since the Asiatic plague has destroyed so many lives during the past few months.

Probably not less than forty thousand natives have died from the plague in Canton since the 1st of March.

27

The plague appeared in Hong Kong about the 1st of May, and during that month the drastic measures adopted by the Hong Kong Authorities caused many thousands of Chinese to rush to this city and Province to avoid what they regarded as brutal treatment by foreigners.

These refugees created great and wide-spread indignation by their reports of cruelties of foreigners in separation of families, post-mortem examinations, &c. &c. until this City and surrounding Country were full of the most astounding rumors.

With the coming of many thousands of Chinese into Canton and surrounding country from Hong Kong, there were doubtless numberless rascals who could not ordinarily be allowed to return hither.

3

Commencing on Sunday 10th instant, there was inaugurated a placard campaign which evidently had for its purpose a general uprising against foreigners, Christians, Missions, and perhaps the Authorities who were openly denounced for paying heed to the demands of foreigners.

These placards stated that foreigners were dispensing poison to the natives in scent-bags which quickly produced death; and that foreign women and bad native assistants were going about distributing poisonous scent-bags.

The placards called upon the populace to kill and exterminate foreigners and Christians.

About noon on Monday 11th instant a mob suddenly assaulted two female Medical Missionaries on the Hsuan side of Canton; as truthfully described in the appended printed letter of Reverend E. E. Tsig, Superintendent of the United Brethren Mission in Canton, marked A

A

24

The foreign consuls promptly communicated by wire with His Excellency the Viceroy, and had military police forces stationed at various points in the city; and the authorities proceeded to suppress the publication of the mischievous placards, by tearing down the placards that were posted on the streets, and arresting any person found in possession of the same or of the carved blocks on which the placards were printed. Appended ²/_B and ³/_C are copies of correspondence. The unexpected riot or mob in Canton on Monday, 11th instant was the favorable circumstance which resulted in arousing the authorities to vigorous efforts in suppressing placards before they were posted in all parts of the city.

In the meantime advice were received by Consul, through the Missionaries, of similar

1.51

Macards causing excitement and rage
 among the natives in the interior
 Districts in all directions; which
 have resulted in the demolition
 of Roman Catholic (French),
 and American Presbyterian
 Chapels, at these places;
 and the looting and pillaging
 of the homes of native Christians,
 and killing and maiming several
 natives. These outrages are going
 on in the country; but with
 constant communication by
 written dispatches, telegrams,
 and interviews, the powers
 have endeavored to keep the
 Chinese officials up to their duty,
 instead of allowing them to treat
 these matters lightly or indifferently.
 Such attentions on the part of boards
 elicited from H.E. the Viceroy assurances
 of vigilance, as set forth in the
 appended copy of translation of
 a dispatch received from him,
 and marked 4/D.

4/D

6/

Cousuls became positive that the sub-ordinate officials of His Excellency the Viceroy were concealing from him the actual condition of affairs, for fear of losing their positions if he knew their carelessness made it possible for such violent disturbances and outrages to occur.

The Council met daily for consultation and unanimity of action; and we had documentary evidence that the Viceroy was not fully informed as to what had occurred and was threatened.

It was agreed that the Senior Consul should have an interview with the Viceroy; which I secured on Saturday 16th instant, from ten o'clock A.M. to eleven and a half o'clock A.M. in the presence of the Viceroy's Board of Foreign Affairs; with the aid of an excellent European interpreter, Mr. Xavier, of the French Consulate, instead of using an obsequious native interpreter, who would not dare to utter plain truths.

Appended, and marked $\frac{5}{E}$, is Copy $\frac{5}{E}$ of my statement to the Viceroy. $\frac{5}{E}$ 2
 My remarks were embodied in the form of a written dispatch (in English and Chinese); and as I read slowly paragraph by paragraph, the same was clearly interpreted to His Excellency, who gave strict attention and entered into earnest conversation on each point; and thus after a fair and square understanding of matters, I placed the Chinese text in the hands of H. E. the Viceroy, and handed my English Copy to his English-speaking Secretary, Mr Tsau. Before I left, the Viceroy said: "I will immediately send for both Magistrates (Hankow & Peking);" which he certainly did; and a more vigorous and energetic style of work was inaugurated. The Brigade General, the Nanking Magistrate, the Military Police commander, and others subsequently called at this Bazaar for conference; and here also they met the two assaulted American ladies, the guests of this Bazaar.

8/

While giving special attention to the work of suppressing outrages in City and Country, Consuls have faithfully endeavored to keep the Chinese Officials up to a diligent effort to capture the ring-leaders and violent assailants in the mob of Monday 11th instant. Reaching arrest, the worst rascals fled; but the Officials seem sure they will soon return to their Customary shops, when some further arrests will be made.

As it is decapitation or nothing, it is necessary to proceed judiciously, but I shall not permit the leading assailants against the two American Missionary ladies, Mrs S. Bigler and Miss S. Halverson, to go unpunished, if testimony can be fairly elicited through Chinese process of court business.

6/7

Appended and marked F 9/2 is copy of translation of Viceroy's dispatch, bearing upon this matter of dealing with the assailants of those ladies.

Appended and marked 7/9
is a printed editorial from
the Hong Kong Press of 21st
instant, showing the extent
of the Exodus of Chinese
from Hong Kong to Canton
and this Province; and the
intensity of their hostility
to foreigners; and the state
of affairs resulting from
the plague.

It is impossible
to predict the outcome of
all this commotion, and
turbulence, and pestilence;
but I will endeavor to stand
proud to the best of my humble
ability for the security of America
and all foreign interests.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
Charles Seymour
W. Journal

arm pushed her along toward the open place. The assaulting began again worse than before; one man in particular distinguished himself by his terrific blows on her back and sides. She thought each blow that the next one would kill her. Frantic with pain and despair she tore herself loose from the mob and ran into a shop, clear back into the kitchen. Then she got hold of something, she knows not what. One of the mob came in but could not pull her away. Others came in and they tore her loose and out again on to the street. She had on a gold pin and the leader of the mob snatched this off, tearing loose her clothing. He then seized her by the shoulders and with terrible oaths said, "We are going to take you out here and kill you." With her hat gone, her hair pulled down, her clothes nearly torn off, and the howling mob dragging her already near the open field and pounding her with all their might, she had no reason to doubt the truth of his statement.

They finally reached the open place, where the man gave her a great push and let her go, thinking to throw her on to the ground, and then they would kill her with stones. But fortunately she managed to keep on her feet and endavoured to make her way across the open to the northwest, toward the Customs Terrace. The boys of the mob had already covered her with soft mud from head to foot. There is a street running north from the Customs Terrace to our home street. She wanted to reach this street, but two or three of the mob ran around already and locked the street gates. How she ever managed to get across to the back of Mr. Barton's house through that volley of stones is a miracle to me. One stone struck her on the back of the head cutting a gash about three inches long. But she had become so numbed by this time that the sense of pain was almost gone.

Mr. Barton, on hearing the noise of the mob, ran out and saw her near his back door, but the water was so deep that he ran out the front way to let her in that way. He found the street gate locked and a man holding the key in his hand. He ran back and opened the back door and helped her in and barred the door. The mob assaulted the house with stones. Mr. Barton sent his servant out the front way to the Custom House to ask for men and soldiers.

By this time Mr. Hayden, living in the adjoining house, and who was asleep at the time, was aroused by the noise. He and Mr. Barton donned their official coats and presented themselves with their revolvers and held the mob at bay until the Customs men and soldiers came, which was not long.

During all this time Dr. Bigler was having her separate experiences. At the time the man was found on our door step she was treating some Chinese patients who had come in for treatment and medicine. After Dr. Halverson had gone to the river followed by the sick man she returned to her patients. She waited on them, and as Dr. Halverson had not returned she became uneasy and went to the landing to see what was the matter. The people were quiet, but looked at her as if they were dazed and would not tell her of Dr. Halverson. She went to all the landings down even to the hospital, but could learn nothing of the doctor. She came back, and when near home met a man who told her that his boys said a mob was stoning a foreign woman; but he thought she was safe in a house then as they were stoning the house. She knew at once that it was Dr. Halverson. But she did not know where the house was. He kindly went with her to the place on the front side, while the mob was pelting the house at the back. She saw Dr. Halverson at the front window, and she said if she had a chair she thought she could get home. Dr. Bigler came immediately to get one of the boys to go for a chair, but they were afraid and would not go. She said if no one would go she would go herself.

The sight of Dr. Halverson, all covered with mud and wounds and blood, had perved her to any endeavour to get her home, not knowing how badly Dr. Halverson might be hurt.

She marched through the streets with a look of defiance on her face that made the coolies shrink away like they had been struck. On her way to the chair station she came upon a dead man in the street. This was some little distance east of where Dr. Halverson was. The mob there had cooled down and some of them

had gone away eastward, and it is supposed that they saw Dr. Bigler as she approached the dead man. Doubtless they thought she was going to get his brains and eyes for medicine, like they think the Hongkong doctors do, and they began to yell "Kill her! kill the foreign devil woman!" But they seemed to be afraid of her and kept at a distance and threw stones. Through mistake she turned into a blind street but did not know it. When the mob saw her enter this street they gave a savage, triumphant shout, thinking that they had their victim caged. They showered the stones thick and fast, but in their eagerness and rage they got such large stones that most of them fell short of the mark. One large one, however, hit her on the head and would likely have killed her had it not been for her thick sun hat. It cut through the hat and into her scalp, knocking her over against the street wall, but she did not fall.

When she saw that she could not get out at that end of the street she inquired of two burly fellows standing in a door, if she could get through the house to the next street, but they bolted the door for an answer. Realizing her danger she calmly faced the mob and walked straight toward it. That was too much bravery for the mob, and they began to retreat. Two hundred howling, bloodthirsty villains quailed before the determined face and attitude of one lone Christian woman!

At this juncture a Christian Chinaman living there rushed out and took her into his house. This aroused the mob more, but the brave fellow stood his ground like a hero and actually shamed the mob into quietness.

About the time the Customs men and soldiers arrived at Mr. Barton's, Dr. Halverson heard the noise over east and said the mob was after Dr. Bigler. Immediately Mr. Barton, Mr. Hayden, Capt. Forsythe, a Frenchman, and a German, whose names I cannot recall, and a Chinese officer set out for her rescue. They found her safe, and the mob vanished as if swallowed up by the earth on their approach. They gallantly escorted the doctor to Mr. Barton's and from there they brought both ladies home. But there was no mob followed them any of the way back, and there was no demonstration of any kind in our street. The people here have always been comparatively friendly and have never shown any ugly spirit.

The Customs men acted bravely and nobly—all honour and gratitude to them. They did offer to escort the ladies to Shameen, and when they thought best to go to their own home the men gallantly offered their ready assistance if at any time it should be required.

The sick man did not die on the street at the beginning of the trouble, nor did the mob kill him.

How Shing, carpenter, in our street, told us that some time after the riot he saw the man trying himself to get a boat to go down the river.

Time and the sober judgment of all sensible people have, I think, demonstrated that the doctors, in refusing to leave their home and asking only the protection due to American citizen, and all through the riot, acted, not with rash missionary zeal as your informant states, but with good judgment and perfect courage.

It is easy enough after the trouble is all over, and behind the breastwork of a steel pen or a goose-quill, to talk about rash zeal or what ought to have been done. But in an emergency like that it required immediate action, decisive and courageous. There are not two men or women in Canton or in Hongkong who would have acted more wisely and courageously than the Drs. did under all the circumstances. If they were rash and zealous, I would to God that every man and woman in Canton and Hongkong had the same quality and quantity of that spirit. I know before that the ladies were wise and brave, but now I am doubly proud of them. The ladies desire to express their overflowing gratitude to their rescuers, especially to Mr. Barton and the Christian Chinaman (Tsz), who took them into their houses; also to Consul Seymour for the promptness and energy with which he was trying to bring the offenders to justice. These are the real facts as they occurred, all other reports to the contrary notwithstanding.—Yours respectfully,

E. E. FIX,
Supt. of The United Brethren
Mission, Canton.
United Brethren Mission House,
Canton, 16th June, 1894.

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PTO

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Telegram. Shameen 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. P. M.
June. 11th 1894.

His Excellency Viceroy
Banton Yamen.

Placards are being posted stating foreign
Missionaries are distributing drugs to poison business.

As a result two Missionary ladies were
assaulted and wounded in the streets of Honam today.

Not threaten to continue. The foreign consuls
request Viceroy to take immediate steps to protect
all foreigners in banton, and prevent disturbances
already begun from extending.

At present foreigners in Honam are in
danger. Viceroy is requested to send soldiers there
at once.

Signed - Seymour. U. S. Consul.

Brenan. British Consul.

Huart. French Consul.

Schrameier. German Consul.



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Telegraphic Reply of Viceroy to Consuls
Received 10.30. P.M. June. 11. 1894.

Viceroy received telegram. The commissioner of customs has reported the Honam matter. The Chinese official Mr. Wong has reported the same personally to the Viceroy. I now instruct the two Magistrates (Namhoi and Pui Si) to issue Proclamations tonight.

I also instruct the military officers together with Mr. Lung (Commander of soldiers on Canal and River front) privately to send soldiers to suppress trouble. This is an important matter and is to be attended to quietly. I beg you will convey the same to all foreigners and ask them to be very careful; and not to give medical attendance and be quiet. That is the most important.

Viceroy's Chamber 8.40. P.M. 8th day 5th moon.

(Seal)



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Viceroy's Lamen.
Canton, June 12th 1894.
To Consul Seymour.

Sir:

The Viceroy respectfully acknowledges having received the American Consul's telegram in regard to the placards posted in Canton &c, and at once instructed the Brigadier General and the Nam Hoi and Pün Tü Magistrates to issue proclamations that night and to send soldiers and runners to enquire and arrest the placard posters.

The Viceroy also heard that there are placards posted at the "Wing ching Mün" (South Gate of the city) and, therefore, again strictly instructed all the Military officials and the Nam Hoi and Pün Tü Magistrates to order soldiers and runners to attend to the matter.

Inclosed please find copies of the Viceroy's instructions to the Military officials and the Nam Hoi and Pün Tü Magistrates.

With renewed assurances of highest esteem, the Viceroy sends compliments and cord.

Your obedient servant
(Signed) Li Han Chang.

- 2. -

Viceroy's Instructions are as follows:—

Whereas placards are forbidden by law and every one is required to destroy and tear them off wheresoever and whenever seen. Recently placards are posted inside and outside of the Canton city stating Bubonic plague is derived from the foreigners' churches which spread poisons and to injure people by distributing incense bags to smell and thereby causing death. The object of such evil-disposed persons is simply to disseminate false statements among all the people in the attempt of raising trouble with the hope of robbing people of money and so forth.

The Viceroy has already instructed the Brigadier General and the Nam Hoi and Pün Tü Magistrates to issue proclamations and to order soldiers and runners to enquire into and to arrest the placard-posters and to severely punish them when caught.

The Viceroy learns that placards are posted at the Wing Ching Mien (South Gate), Tai Ping Mien (West Gate) and at the Honam Temple, the General and Magistrates must therefore order the soldiers and runners to give

— 3 —

immediate and strict attention to the aforesaid respective places.

In civil affairs, is the Teepoo's responsibility; and in Military, the locally-stationed soldiers.-

It is their duty to give sharp watch, and to arrest the placard-posters, and also to tear off placards when seen.

Since this strict instruction, if there are placards still and again seen posted, the responsibility is on the General and Magistrates, and the Teepoos and locally-stationed soldiers will be dismissed and punished with excuse.

For the present time, the General and the Magistrates are requested to have the Teepoos and locally-stationed soldiers of the Wing Ching Mien, Tai Ping Mien and the Panam Temple to be put in the cage and dismissed and report the same to the Viceroy without delay. "Obey this"

- 1) To the Military officials.
- 2) To the Namhai and the Pin Li Magistrates.



1. $\frac{5}{E}$ $\frac{5}{G}$

Consulate of the United States.
Canton. China.
June 15th, 1894.

To His Excellency
Li
Viceroy of the Two Kwangs.

Sir:

The American Consul very respectfully avails himself of this opportunity to urge upon Your Excellency's attention the necessity for the adoption of vigorous measures to prevent serious results from the wide circulation of vicious placards in all parts of the city of Canton and in the surrounding country in all direction.

These placards are daily becoming more threatening in their character, and not only call upon the people to rise en masse to destroy the chapels and other Mission properties, but also to destroy the property of all foreigners; and further to kill the

— 2 —

foreigners; and these placards which appeared on the streets of Canton on Thursday of this week also call upon the people to resist the Chinese officials; who are denounced as law-breakers, from the highest to the lowest.

Thousands of written and printed placards inciting turbulence were sold and distributed on the streets of Canton without any hindrance.

As no allusion or reference has been made ~~in~~ any communication to the Foreign Consuls, by the Chinese Authorities, in regard to the brutal assaults upon two American Missionary ladies by the native mobs in Honam on Monday last, the American Consul feels it his duty to inform Your Excellency that in the Telegram sent on Monday afternoon 11th instant by the four Consuls. viz:

Brenan, British Consul.

Huart, French Consul.

Schrameier, German Consul.

and Seymour, American Consul.

— 3 —

the fact was stated that "two Missionary ladies were assaulted and wounded on the streets of Honam today".

In the dispatch sent by the U. S. Consul to Your Excellency on the evening of Monday 11th instant the fact was stated "that a mob of natives on the Honam side of Canton today assaulted two foreign Missionary ladies, and threatened the lives of all foreigners."

In the dispatch addressed to Your Excellency on Thursday afternoon 14th instant the American Consul stated —

"Already on Monday last the native mobs in Honam brutally assaulted two American Missionary ladies who were rescued after the ladies had received serious injuries."

On the evening of Thursday, 14th instant the American Consul sent to Your Excellency a telegram as follows. —

"Canton and vicinity full of violent placards today against authorities and Foreigners. Vigorous measures needed. Two American ladies brutally

— 4 —

assaulted by Honan mobs Monday.

Your Excellency is respectfully reminded that up to the present time the Foreign Consuls have not been able to learn that any Chinese official has enquired at either of the Foreign Consulates as to the injuries inflicted by the Chinese mobs upon either of those ladies, or that anyone has made any effort to ascertain the particulars as to the assault; nor can we learn that any attempts have been made by any Chinese official to detect and punish the ring-leaders of the mobs who brutally assaulted those two ladies with stones, brick-bats, and blows of the fists—endangering their lives.

The two ladies were not together when assaulted. Mrs. Bigler went in search of Miss Halverson, and was assaulted when about five or ten minutes walk South East of where Miss Halverson was rescued.

These assaulted ladies sought security and safety from the mobs by entering places belonging to natives.

- 5 -

One of the ladies named Mrs. Dr. Bigler after receiving severe injuries was admitted to the house of a Chinese Christian family; but the other lady named Miss. Dr. Halverson was not permitted to enter some places where she sought shelter from the mob, and was forcibly ejected from some shops which she entered for safety.

Both of these ladies are registered at this consulate as citizens of the United States of America.

Miss. Dr. Halverson was dragged and pulled along, and received blows from the doubled fists of men in the mob, and from stones and brick-bats on her head and face and body, while being conducted by the mob from the immediate vicinity of the large Tea House and the large Pork Shop near the bridge at the foot of Nam Ou Tai

- 6. -

Kai, up that street, and thence across a sand-lot in rear & West of some blocks of brick buildings being erected, and in rear of the custom House officers' terrace.

At that point, where there is a dirty pool of water, the mob pushed her upon the narrow strip of land, where she felt exhausted from the injuries she had received; and then she was rescued by an European who saw her lying at the mercy of the brutal mob, one of whom closed the gate, which prevented the possibility of her escape to the street beyond.

These facts can be verified by many witnesses, and especially by the shopkeepers along the Nam On Tai Kai, through which she had been pulled and pounded by the mob; as well as by the proprietors of the Tea House, and Pork-Shop, and other shops where she was refused admission or ejected forcibly, to leave her at the mercy of the mob.

The "Kai Fong" and shopkeepers

- 7. -

along the route over which Miss Halverson was conducted and maltreated by the mob should be compelled to reveal to the authorities the ring-leaders who were conspicuous for their brutality against that unoffending and excellent woman, for whose good conduct and reputation all American citizens will cheerfully vouch.

As an instance of the co-operation of the shop-keepers with the mob, one of the shop-keepers on Nam On Tai Kai poured upon her a considerable quantity of filthy old fish-brine or some nasty fluid. Under existing circumstances the American Consul asked Your Excellency to designate an hour on Saturday 16th instant for very important business; as the consuls wish to be sure that Your Excellency may be in possession of the facts in this case, especially at the present crisis when many evil disposed persons are making great exertions to create wide-spread

— 8. —

turbulence, and inflict serious injuries to Foreigners.

The American Consul earnestly and respectfully insists that there shall be no further delay or neglect in bringing to justice and punishment the ring-leaders of the mobs, whose brutal treatment of the two American ladies mentioned ought not to go unpunished.

With renewed assurances of highest esteem,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul
at Canton.



9.

Canton, China. June 15th. 1894.

We, the undersigned Regina Maria Bigler, M. D. and Susan Lovina Halverson, M. D. citizens of the United States of America, residing in Canton as Medical Missionaries, do declare on oath that the facts in regard to the assaults made upon us by native mobs in Honam, on Monday 11th instant, are as stated in the foregoing document to which this is appended.

(Signed) Regina M. Bigler
 " Susan L. Halverson

Subscribed and sworn to before me
 this 15th day of June, A. D. 1894.

10.

The following are the names of the Tea-Shop, the Pork House, and the Fish-shop referred to in the foregoing statements.

Loong Cheong - Tea-Shop.

Yee Lee - Grocer & Pork-Shop.

Tai Fung Yee Kee, - Grocer & Fish Shop.

Translation

6
F.

Viceroy's Yamen
Canton, June 14th 1894.

To
Consul Seymour

Sir,

The Viceroy respectfully acknowledges having received the American Consul's dispatch about the assault upon Miss. Doctor Halverson and Mrs. Doctor Bigler.

Understanding that these two ladies were in the intention of attending the Chinese sick when assaulted, the Viceroy regards the Chinese were not right indeed, and feels extremely sorry in the mind for the two ladies.

With reference to people throwing stones, one of them had been arrested. And as to the shops given in the dispatch, the Viceroy will instruct the Magistrate and Military Officials to make enquiries about it and will communicate to the American Consul the detailed particulars afterwards.

With compliments and card.

ANTI-FOREIGN FEELING AT CANTON AND HONGKONG.

The riot that occurred at Canton on Monday, in which two missionary ladies were so shamefully abused, is an indication of the volcanic nature of Chinese sentiment towards foreigners at the present time. For some weeks past, in fact ever since the outbreak of the plague, the native ill-will towards foreigners has been gathering force, and it is reported that an attack on Shameen has been seriously discussed. Various other rumours of a more or less alarming nature have been in circulation. The shadow of a battle axe is said to have appeared on the pictures of the God of War, and it may be taken as some criterion of the credulity of the race that trustworthy and reputable Chinamen in Hongkong who cannot individually be suspected of any ill-will to Europeans, gravely assert that they have themselves seen the shadow. Various opinions are entertained by them as to the signification of the alleged portent. Some, we believe, connect it with the plague, but others are of opinion that it means fighting—fighting between Chinese and foreigners—and some of the many who have left the Colony are said to have given as their reason for going that they wanted to get away before the fighting began. In Hongkong, of course, any native rising could be very speedily dealt with, and the only inconvenience foreigners have to fear from riots is the disturbance they would cause to business; of danger to foreign life or property there would be practically none. At Canton also, with the native guard now kept on Shameen, it is not likely that a mob will ever again be able to rush Shameen and set fire to the buildings as they did in September, 1883. While the native officials would naturally sympathise with any movement calculated to cause loss or trouble to foreigners, it may be supposed that they would also shrink from the liability of having to pay heavy claims for damages. It has, further, been rumoured at Canton that if Taipingshan is burnt Shameen will be burnt in retaliation. The parties who would advocate such a measure could have no appreciation of the object proposed to be gained by the burning of Taipingshan, which is, to give the poorer classes of Chinese in this Colony superior dwellings; but it is easy to understand how evil intentioned agitators, who are now busily at work, might misrepresent the affair, as they have done the treatment of plague patients, and make it appear an act of oppression and cruelty towards the native community, to be avenged if possible. And though there may be absolutely no fear of violence in Hongkong and very little on Shameen, it is not impossible that the anti-foreign feeling at Canton, evinced so keenly in the attack on Miss BEGLER and Miss HALVERSTONE, may break out in anti-missionary riots in the city. It would be well, therefore, for all parties concerned to be on their guard. At a time like the present rumours of a more or less wild character are sure to prevail, and to take them all seriously would be absurd, but at the same time there is undoubtedly a dangerous feeling abroad which ought to inspire caution. Amongst other rumours that have been in circulation is one to the effect that it was intended to withdraw all the Chinese from Hongkong and so render the place useless to foreigners, who, without the assistance of Chinese labour, would be unable to carry on their various industries and trades. And it is more than probable that the large exodus which has for the past few weeks been going on, though in the main due to fear of what would happen to their remains should they fall victims to the plague, has been largely stimulated by the machinations of evil

disposed persons whose work is to be seen in the infamous placards posted at Canton imputing nameless horrors to the medical staff in their treatment of plague patients. But though a movement to entice or frighten the native population away from the Colony might cause great loss and inconvenience for a time it could never be completely successful, any more than it was at the time of the last war. There would always be a large proportion who would not leave the Colony at all, and those who did leave would very speedily return. So long as good wages are to be earned in the Colony so long may we be sure of a sufficiency of native labour, for the Chinaman, with all his prejudices and curious sentiments, is very sensible of the advantage of being able to earn a living under favourable circumstances. Of all the thousands who have recently left the Colony probably every able bodied man entertains the intention of returning so soon as the plague has abated. The women and children will probably return more slowly and the effect of the exodus will be visible in the next census returns. The Chinese have never taken kindly to Hongkong as a place for family residence, and the house to house visitation rendered necessary by the plague has given them a scare from which it is to be feared they will not soon recover. The result will be a diminution in the demand for houses and a decline in the retail trade of the Colony from which we will all suffer directly or indirectly. That the Chinese should have had to be interfered with so unpleasantly in their domestic arrangements is very regrettable but quite inevitable. The plague must be stamped out at whatever cost.

No. 273

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 30th - 1894

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

file

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Accounts & Returns
for Quarter ended June 30. 1894.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Account with Vouchers.
Arrivals & Departures, Am. Vessels.
Notarial Services.

No. 273

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, June 30th 1894

Honorable Edwin D. Mearns

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith Accounts with Vouchers,
and Returns, from this Consulate,
for Quarter ended this day,
as per subjoined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
N. S. Consul

Inclosures viz:

1. Account Vouchers.
 2. Arrivals, Departures, &c.
 3. Notarial Services.
- all
L. T. M.
✓



27

No. 274

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, July 18th 1894

Mr. Seymour.

To the Department of State.

Actd Aug. 29. 1894

SUBJECT:

Condition of Affairs in Canton
and vicinity.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Improvement in City and surrounding
Country.

The gently leader referred to in
the concluding paragraph should
be punched WQF

No. 274

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, July 18th 1894

Honorable Edwin D. Muhl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you, since my dispatch No. 272, of 27th ultimo, the condition of affairs at and about Canton has improved. The "Plague" is diminishing, notwithstanding the vast numbers of natives, infected with the disease, shipped from Hong Kong to Canton and this Province during June, caused an increased number of deaths here during that month and the first week or ten days of this month.

The turbulence of the populace, in City and Country, has greatly subsided, under the restraining measures of the Chinese Authorities, and the decrease of the Plague, and already large numbers of the refugees from Hong Kong to the Province of Kwangtung are returning to that Port.

The Governor of Hong Kong estimated the number of these refugees at about eighty thousand during the two months of May and June; and His Excellency might have truthfully added that among them were thousands of rogues and rascals; who sought opportunities for mischief and plunder, and would not, in ordinary times and under usual circumstances, be allowed to visit their native homes in the

4/

which, on information derived from foreign missionaries (English and American) and their native helpers, in the interior of the Province and City, I addressed His Excellency in May.

If the Authorities finally met the emergency successfully, it was because the Consuls kept them up to their duty; and did not permit indolent, conceited, and untrustworthy Chinese officials, to deceive H. E. the Viceroy as to the actual condition of affairs in City and Country.

The French Roman Catholic Missionary Stations in the Province of Kwangtung number (as the French Consul informs me) one two hundred.

The British Consul informs me there are nearly forty English Mission Stations. The German & Swiss Mission Stations ^(combined) are probably about the same as the British.

The American Mission Stations number about one hundred and seventy in the Province of Kwangtung.

5

With these four hundred and fifty foreign Missionary Stations, generally in charge of native Assistant preachers, and visited by foreign missionaries of several nationalities, and scattered in all directions of City and Country, the Chief sufferers have been the native Christians.

By supplying the Authorities with lists of these localities of which these various Mission Stations, Chapels, hospitals, etc. and urging vigilance in preventing outrages at those places, the Consuls caused the semblance at least of Chinese Authority to be apparent for the security and safety of many lives and much property.

As a result of such watchfulness, only three Mission Stations were disturbed - one of which was a French Roman Catholic Mission Station "Tai-Luk", about six miles west of Canton;

6)

where several homes of native Christians were pillaged, and five of the natives were fired upon by the marauders - causing one death, and four persons to be wounded.

The other two were American Presbyterian Missions (at Sheklung and San Kong) from fifty to sixty miles East of Canton. At Sheklung one of the native teachers was murdered and his body thrown into the river, the Chapel destroyed, and several native Christians sustained losses.

At San Kong the losses of the Mission were small - the losses of natives were about \$123. Mexican.

His Excellency the Viceroy complied with my request for an immediate adjustment and settlement of the Sheklung losses by the local authorities; and last week an official came from Sheklung and settled thus - besides punishment of offenders, Chapel to be rebuilt within 30 days.

Payment for furniture and books \$60.
 Payment for losses of native Christians \$240.
 Indemnity to family of deceased " 100 Taels.

3

Hope to get the San Kong matter settled by the Local Authorities for honor of native Christians. The American Protestant Mission loss at San Kong is so small no claim will be presented.

Thus it appears that the Country outrages have not been very disastrous to foreigners. I am informed by the French Consul no settlement has been made for the French Mission losses at Tai Luk which solely fell upon natives.

As to the punishment of the leaders of the mob in Honam side of Cantonville 11th only two persons have been made to suffer - one for posting bad placards ^{to instigate the mob}, and one for pushing one of the assaulted missionaries.

In the Chinese way of punishing mobs, the Magistrate finds out where money can be obtained; and there is every reason to believe such has been the plan adopted by the Local Magistrate about the Honam rioters.

87

There has been so much of
 work in preventing numerous
 outrages that were threatened, it
 has been impossible to keep
 punishment of evil-doers
 uppermost; but I have assured
 His Excellency that something more
 must be done to bring the leading
 assailants in the Senam mob to
 merited punishment. He pleads
 the danger of causing further trouble
 if the matter of punishment beyond
 what has been inflicted is insisted on.
 It is true, there are no foreign
 gun-boats to back up the demands
 of foreign consuls, as the foreign 'Mae-
 war' are off to Siam and Korea;
 but I am trying to have the really
 bad leaders of the mob arrested and
 brought to punishment; and hope to
 succeed, notwithstanding the venal policy
 of the native Magistrate is a serious obstacle.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

Consul

No. 275



Consulate of the United States,

Canton,

July 27 1894

Mr. Seymour

Copy to Treasury
Sept. 13/94.

Oct. 2 Sept. 20/94.

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

"Currency Certificates"

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 275

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, July 27th 1894

Honorable Edwin F. Ahl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge having received, on the 25th instant, your Circular of June 15th 1894, accompanied by one dated June 1st 1894, in regard to "Currency Certificates".

During the past twelve years there has not been an invoice of Merchandise certified at this Consulate for the United States except in Mexican Silver Dollars.

2

The Treasury Department's letter, ^{or circular} which accompanied the Circular of August 24th 1891, from the Department of State, was addressed to "Collectors and other officers of the Customs", and numbered 111, with date of July 19. 1893, and the honored name of the Secretary of the Treasury. The Treasury Department letter to the Honorable the Secretary of State, which accompanied the Circular of August 18th 1893 from the Department of State, was dated August 12th 1893, from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

With those documents now before me, without the clear explanations given in the Circular of June 1. 1894, there is a doubt as to requirements; and when I went among the foreign merchants in Canton to make known the

13

Circular as to Currency Certificates;
 out of about fifteen foreign merchants,
 I found only one who understood the
 requisition as explained in the Circular
 of June 1, 1894, because of the
 uncertainty or doubt as to whether a
 Mexican silver dollar, ranging in
 gold value from seventy to fifty
 cents, is "a depreciated currency" in
 China; where Copper "Cash", of
 the approximate value of one tenth
 of a cent, is the legal and basic standard
 of valuation; although Tails (of various
 values) are used in valuations of silver
 when weighed for money payments; while
 foreign merchants at Canton, in their dealings
 with native merchants for merchandise,
 adopt the Hong Kong Colonial Currency
 which recognizes the Mexican Silver Dollar
 as the standard currency. Bank notes are so payable.
 By reference to the first para-
 graph in Secretary Carlisle's cir-
 cular No. 111, dated July 19, 1893, it
 will be seen that "the statistics"
 "of imports of ~~valued~~ imports"

4/

"from Countries having a Depre-
 "ciated Currency are seriously vitiated"
 "by the fact that Collectors of Customs"
 "in reporting the values of such im-
 "ports make out their returns in the
 "Depreciated Currency indicated by the
 "invoice, instead of in its equivalent"
 "in United States money, as is the intent"
 "of the laws and regulations governing"
 "the method of stating the values of imports."

x x x

"You are therefore"
 "instructed to require importers to declare"
 "upon all entries of goods which are free"
 "of duty or subject to specific rates of duty,"
 "whether the value of the goods is expressed in"
 "the Depreciated coin, or paper currency of"
 "the Country of exportation, and if expressed"
 "in Depreciated coin or paper currency"
 "of the Country of exportation, and if expressed"
 "in Depreciated coin or paper currency they"
 "shall reduce the same to its equivalent"
 "value in the standard coin of the United"
 "States at the time of exportation."

Those two quoted paragraphs from Treasury
 Circular No. 111 ^(and second paragraph in Mr. Hamilton's letter of Aug 29/53)
 led me into misapprehension.

5

or misunderstanding of the object of the "Currency Certificate"; which I shall no longer use when each invoice clearly expresses a valuation in "Mexican Silver Dollars".

In all of the invoices hereafter certified, the words will be inserted, by the Merchants presenting the same for certification by the U.S. Consul, "Payable in Mexican Silver Dollars", at the head of the invoice; and the footing will show the total value in "Mexican Silver \$_____"; and with Consular Seal the value will be stated in "Dollars of Mexican Silver".

And agreeably with the last paragraph on page 3 of your Circular of June 1, 1894, no "Currency Certificate" will be affixed to invoices thus clearly expressed in "Mexican Silver Dollars".

Yours, Sir,

Very obedient servant,
 Wm. L. Seymour
 U.S. Consul

No. 276

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, September 28th 1894

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

file

SUBJECT:

Quarterly Returns, Account Vouchers.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 276



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, September 30th 1894

Honorable Edwin P. Hall

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith Account, Vouchers and
Returns from this Consulate,
as per appended list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

Dear Sir's Servant

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul

Inclosures viz:

1. Account with Vouchers.
2. List of Dep't. of Vessels.
3. Annual return of Exports.
4. Record Notarise Services.

No 3 inadvertently omitted in last inclosure.

No. 277



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, December 31st 1894

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Account, Vouchers and
Returns for Quarters ended Dec 31, 1894

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 277

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, December 31st 1894

Honorable Edwin F. Hall

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith Account, Vouchers, and
returns, from this Consulate,
for Quarter ending this day,
as per subjoined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

W. Counsel

Inclosures viz

1. Account & Vouchers.
2. Record of Notarial Service.
3. Receipts & Disbursements.
4. Names of persons employed.

No. 278

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 5th 1895



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

Aus
4/12/95-

SUBJECT:

Triplicate invoices

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Inclosing correspondence
(Copy) Return U.S. Customs House,
San Francisco and Canton
Consulate.*

No. 278

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 5th 1895

Honorable Edwin F. Hall

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith
copy of correspondence between the Customs
House, San Francisco, and this Consulate,
respecting a matter about which I would
like instruction.

"It is invariably the practice of the
Southern Pacific R.R. Company (as Mr
Jerome writes) to make free entry at the
port of San Francisco of all raw silk im-
ported for Eastern points via San Francisco."
Mr Jerome states the reasons for so doing,

and close his letter thus - "Therefore,
"in future, in every case of shipment of raw
"silk to any Eastern point via San Francisco,
"if you will forward the triplicate invoices
"direct to this office (San Francisco) it will
"save much time and unnecessary correspondence
"in procuring them".

As this plan or suggestion, which, under circumstances
described by Mr Jerome, may be a good one and very
desirable, does not accord with the Consular Regu-
lations, the Department of State and Treasury
Department may see fit to adopt it and instruct
Consuls to act accordingly.

If Mr Jerome's suggestion is good in regard
to raw silk, why should it not be applicable to
all free goods at first port of entry?

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

W. A. Gould

The enclosure



Office of the collector of Customs.
Port of San Francisco.
January 31st 1895.

Hon. Charles Seymour
United States Consul General,
Canton, China.

Sir,

It is invariably the practice of the "Southern Pacific R. R. Company" to make free entry at this Port of all raw silk invoiced for Eastern points via San Francisco, in order that the same may be way-billed and forwarded direct to the ultimate destination without being subject to the restrictions of the regulations governing the "Immediate transportation of merchandise in bond without appraisement," and at the same time obviating the necessity of compelling the ultimate consignees to make entry at the nearest Custom House.

Your present practice of forwarding all triplicate invoices of raw silk to the collector at the nearest point of final destination necessitates this office, on the arrival of each importation, making a requisition on various collectors in the East for the required triplicates.

Therefore, in future, in every case of shipment of raw silk to any Eastern point via San Francisco, if

you will forward the triplicate invoices direct to this office, it will save much time and unnecessary correspondence in procuring them.

Very respectfully yours,
(signed) E. B. Jerome.

Collector.

Special Deputy.



March 5th 1895.

E. B. Jerome Esquire

Office of the Collector of Customs, Port of San Francisco.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt this day of your esteemed letter of January 31, 1895, suggesting that "in future in every case of shipment of raw silk to any Eastern point via San Francisco" I should send "the triplicate invoices direct to your office; and in reply beg to state that I will submit the matter to the Department of State for instructions, as the United States Consular Regulations and Congressional enactments do not permit Consuls to send such "triplicate invoices" to any other than "the collector at the port of destination." Probably for the reason stated by you, the Treasury and State Department may see fit to adopt your suggestion.

Faithfully yours,

Charles Leggett

W. J. Gould

No. 279

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 26th 1895



Mr. Seymour

and May 17, 95

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Condition of Affairs at and
about Canton, and Province
of Kwangtung.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 279.

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, March 26th 1895

Honorable Edwin T. Ahl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that since the war has been going on between China and Japan, Canton and vicinity have been tolerably quiet; as the native newspapers have been supplied with items of information from official sources, for dissemination among the people, which concealed Japanese victories, and announced immense slaughter of the invaders by Chinese armies.

21

Many thousands of Chinese from the Province of Kwangtung were sent during the past Winter to replenish the armies in Northern China, but the greater portion of these recruits were ignorant of military requirements; and most of these poor and undisciplined natives were destitute of adequate clothing or supplies. Commanders of transport ships have assured me they landed thousands of these Chinese from Southern China on the banks of the Yangtze in snow-storms, with only their cotton garments, and without blankets or rations necessary for health. All went on smoothly in the South, so long as the war was far away at the North, and they were "legal tender" among the natives.

3

The great danger has been, and is, that when the masses become fully aware of what has been going on; and understand how impotent the Imperial Government has been to resist the invaders, who have always been designated as "Robber-Dwarfs"; there might be wide-spread turbulence in various sections a portion of the Chinese Empire by bands of marauders, who would set the local authorities at defiance, and proceed to pillage and many atrocious outrages.

In the Southwestern part of the Province of Kuenangtung, about one hundred and thirty miles Southward of Canton, and about one hundred and forty miles nearly West from Hong Kong, in what is designated as the Prefecture of "Ko-shan-Fu", there have been, during the early part of this month, serious outrages perpetrated by large marauding parties of native Chinese.

4/

The numbers of these turbulent and lawless bands are estimated at from one to three thousand outlaws; who pillaged the larger villages and cities, and raised considerable sums of money from native bankers and merchants at such places as "Hui-luk", "Shui tung", "Sha-long", &c. It is believed the members of the "Pind Society", and kindred organizations of turbulent and disloyal natives, were in control of these bands of outlaws.

Soldiers were sent from the forts about Canton to suppress the marauders; and it is believed pillage has ceased, or been suspended for the present.

Now that the Japanese have taken possession of the "Pescadore Islands" in the Formosa Channel, the impression prevails among the merchants, bankers, and business men of Canton, ^{that} the Japanese intend to make the "Pescadores" a base of operations against Southern China, and Formosa; and that Canton, as by far the richest city in the Chinese Empire, is to suffer.

5
Anxiety and solicitude are manifested today among the Chinese commercial community of Canton; and they are considering the expediency of seeking safety elsewhere for themselves and their property.

This prevalent feeling of anxiety is likely to be intensified by the reports which are to reach Canton today in the Hongkong papers, about the attempt to assassinate the distinguished Chinese Viceroy, "Li Hung Chang," at Hiroshima, Japan; and the consequent interruption in the pending peace-negotiations.

As the Viceroy of the Two Kwangs, "Li Han Chang," at Canton, is the elder brother of the Viceroy Li Hung Chang, it is possible this event may strengthen the hands and influence of the Viceroy in Canton.

Hence, with the presence of Japanese forces menacing Southern China, it is certain that the Cantonese will henceforth be more keenly interested in the war movements, than when conducted in the far North.

6/

It is not improbable that the Chinese authorities will again soon destroy or close the deep-water or ship-channel between Canton and the sea, by obstructions of stone and piles at what are known as the "barriers" in the South Channel; with the first demonstration of Japanese movements against the Coast of Kwangtung; although it is generally believed among intelligent Europeans that any invading force would come overland, a distance of about ninety to one hundred miles, from the sea-coast (midway between Swatow and Hongkong) to Canton, instead of by the water-route with its torpedo and fort obstructions or defenses.

Yours, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.



No. 280



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, March 31st 1895-

Mr. Seymour

file

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting account, Vouchers & Returns
for Expend. ending March 31, 1895.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 280

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, March 31st 1895

Honorable Edwin F. Uhl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith account, vouchers, and returns, from this Consulate, for the Quarter ending this day, as per subjined list of inclosures.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour,
M. Consul.

List of inclosures viz
1. Account with vouchers.
2. Record of Veterinary Services.
3. Arrivals, Dept. Am Vessels.

No. 281



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, March 31st 1895-

Mr. Seymour

file

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Chinese coolies from Macao to Africa,
per S. Africa*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 281

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, March 31st 1895

Honorable Edwin P. Ahl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that another effort is being made to re-open the Chinese "Coolie-trade" at the Portuguese port of Macao; and this time there seems to be no formidable obstacle, although the Chinese authorities at Canton remonstrated.

About five hundred Chinese coolies have already been secured, and will soon leave Macao, under contracts for five years of service in the Portuguese Colony in Africa, in the Portuguese transport-ship "Africa".

In my Dispatch N^o. 266, dated March 7, 1894,
 the Department of State was informed
 of the arrival and distribution of the
 Chinese Coolies in Brazil, per ^{the} German
 Steamship "Pantalus" from Macao;
 since which no cargoes of coolies have
 left that port, until the present case.
 Many thousands of Chinese coolies
 annually go from Amoy, Swatow, and
 Hong Kong, to the British Colonies in the
 Straits, and to the Dutch Colony of Sumatra.
 The Portuguese claim that the present ship-
 ment of Chinese Coolies to the Portuguese
 Colony in Africa is justifiable; as the coolies
 continue under Portuguese jurisdiction; and
 therefore, although the "Africa" has been under-
 going repairs at Hong Kong, no interference is made.
 I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
 Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul.

No. 282



Consulate of the United States,



Canton China, March 31st 1895

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

*Recd. and
May 17, 1895*

SUBJECT:

"Men-of-War" on Asiatic Station.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 282

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, March 31st 1895

Honorable Edwin F. Uhl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith list of European and American
"Men-of-War", now on the Eastern Coast
of Asia; which will soon be increased
by arrivals of the Russian fleet from
the Mediterranean.

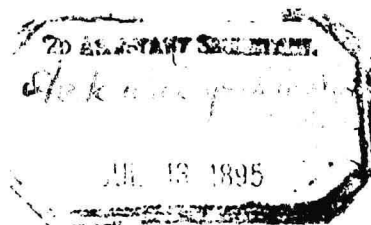
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour,
U.S. Consul.

Enclosure

No. 283



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, May 23rd 1895

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

recd July 15th 95

SUBJECT:

Settlement of claim for losses
of American Protestant Mission at Yung Kong.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Native mob at Yung Kong
February 18th 1895 destroyed
Mission property valued at \$630.⁸⁰/₁₀₀
Mexican. Fully paid by Chinese
Authorities May 20th 1895.

No. 283

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, May 23rd 1895

Honorable Edwin F. Uhl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that
on the 20th instant, the Chinese author-
ities paid in full to the American
Presbyterian Mission, through this
Consulate, the full amount of
the claim of that Mission, for losses
sustained at the hands of a native
mob in Young Long, (about ten miles
from the sea, and about one hundred and
forty miles southwest from Canton,) on Sunday
February 18th 1894.

The losses consisted of items viz:

Books \$85. Medicine, \$28. Surgical instruments \$378.40. Damage to house \$64.00. Damage to furniture \$8.00. Loss by teachers and other employees \$67. = Total \$630.⁸⁵/₁₀₀

Considerable correspondence and controversy occurred between this Consulate and His Excellency, the Viceroy, and between the Viceroy and the Local Authorities, upon this matter; and the money was promised by the Authorities last December, but was delayed through financial troubles of the native banker to whom it was entrusted.

I have not deemed it necessary to trouble the Department with details, but am glad to report a just and final settlement of the case. I have so informed the U. S. Legation.

Yours obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U. S. Consul.



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, August 1st 1895

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

Copy of despatch
+ of recd. to
Treasury. Sept. 7, 1895

SUBJECT:

Report on market prices of
fire and other crackers.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Inclosing Copy of Consul Seymour's
statement, mailed July 29, 1895, to
the Board of U.S. General Appraisers in
New York, on fire crackers; as
required by Department of State's
dispatch No. 171, dated May 25, 1895,
with U.S. Treasury letter of May 23, 1895, and
Board of Appraisers letter of May 24, 1895, received
July 23, 1895.

No. —

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, *August 1st 1895*

Honorable *Edwin F. Hall*

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith
information about fire-crackers, as required
by dispatch ⁴⁰¹⁷¹ dated May 25, 1895, inclosing
copies of letters from U. S. Treasury Department
dated May 23, 1895, and Board of U. S. General
Appraisers in New York dated May 20, 1895;
received July 23, 1895.

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant,

Charles F. Johnson

U. S. Consul

one inclosure



Report on Fire-Crackers.

July 29th, 1895.

Hon. George C. Tichenor

President

Board of U. S. General Appraisers,

125 Blocker St. Corner Worcester,

New York, N. Y.

Sir;

I have the honor to state that on 23rd inst. copy of your letter of May 20th 1895, to the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, by the official route via Shanghai, reached this Consulate, calling for items in regard to fire and cannon crackers; and although I shall send reply through the same route as your letter came, I take the liberty to send you the statements called for in the most direct manner possible to the Board of U. S. General Appraisers, as far as I have been able to get reliable data; and if I succeed in getting more definite information, will send the same to you direct.

It should be stated at the outset that during the recent hostilities between China and Japan, the native merchants and manufacturers of Southern China were in considerable perplexity and uncertainty as to whether Canton would be molested by the invading forces of Japan; and consequently fluctuations in prices of goods occurred with the ever changing indications of peace or war.

Another fact should be kept in view as to apparent fluctuations in prices caused by the variations between dates of contracts and deliveries or shipments of goods.

From the most reliable sources of information I learn, too, that changes occurred in the weights or character of fire crackers, to meet the changes in the U.S. Tariffs from duty by weight and duty by ad valorem. In order to get a certain number of pkgs within a specified weight to lighten U.S. duty an inferior quality of fire cracker came into use.

And with the return of ad valorem U.S. duty a better quality is being made, as there is no object to be gained by exporter or importer in diminishing weight.

With the change of U.S. Tariff the Exporters or Shippers of fire crackers were somewhat perplexed about invoicing charges, etc, but finally adopted the charges which prevailed before the U.S. Duty of 1890 came into force, and when ad valorem duty was levied in the U.S.

These charges are set forth in detail in the accompanying printed agreement marked A.

By examination of that list of charges, it will be seen that nearly everything was deducted except the hole of the fire crackers.

The shippers agreed to abide by that arrangement, to keep the charges within or about $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ of the gross amount of their invoice.

(3)

During October 1894 the prices of fire crackers of one maker (Meen Shing) varied from 55. to 59. cents (Mexican Current Silver) less usual discount of 2% - (two per cent usual trade discount.)

There is a recognized difference in the values of goods by various makers - "Choy King" heading the list as favorite brand, with "Yutshing" as popular rival and perhaps, as good as "Choy King", but, at least, a good second. Then come Meen Shing, Choy Sun, Washing &c &c of a third class.

And besides the ordinary good fire-cracker, is a very inferior make, called "short stem".

As to "Cannon Crackers" it is almost impossible to specify prices by description or quality, as they vary so much. All crackers (fire and cannon) are sold at prices which include cost of boxes, paper lining, gotpchope, labels, &c. and also include "ekin tau" and export duty.

They usually go by junkie instead of River Steamers to Hong Kong to get lower duties and taxes and freight by native junkie, and thus practically are sold "free on board" at Hong Kong.

The circumstances of the manufacturer often effect his prices - "Yutshing" is very wealthy and is sometimes stiffer in prices than his rivals with same class goods.

If matted, one cent per box is added to price.

The average quotations at Canton, China, for Fire Crackers, per box of $64/40$ (less 2%) of the following makers were about as follows:
(Mexican Silver Dollar currency)

<u>1894</u>	Choy King	Yut Shing	Maen Shing	Choy Sun	Washing
October	.58¢	.59¢	55 to 58	57¢	57 to 59
November	58 to 63	59 to 62	55 to 63	57 to 58	60
December	63¢	62¢	62 to 63	57 to 58	61
<u>1895</u>					
January	63¢	61 to 62	63¢	58	61 to 62
February	63 to 67	62 to 65	55 to 60	58 to 59	62¢
March	65 to 67	63 to 65	60¢	59 to 60	63¢
April	63¢	59 to 62	58 to 60	59¢	62¢
May	58 to 59	58 to 59	55 to 59	59¢	59¢
June	58¢	57 to 58	55 to 57	58 to 59	60 to 61
July	58¢	56 to 58	55 to 57	57¢	61¢

From the above quotations the shippers frequently got reductions by large contracts with ready money, at time when war panics and alarming rumours were circulated. They are quotations of the market; but from these there were deviations, and sometimes these deviations were more the results of fears of makers than of the relative values of their goods.

Very Respectfully

Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul

at Canton,

No. 284



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, August 1st 1895

Mr. Seymour

Recd. Sept. 11, '95

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Settlement of W. Johnson's land-case at Canton.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 284

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, August 1st 1895

Honorable Edwin F. Hall

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you of the
attainment of an important land case
at Swatow, in which an American
citizen, named Reverend Doctor
William Ashmore, was the victim
of a powerful conspiracy, organized by
the Swatow Guild and the Local
Chinese Authorities, to deprive him
of a valuable property, by trespass,
interference, and aggressions of various
kinds, of the nature of retaliation and

2

reprisals against Americans for alleged grievances of Chinese in America, at a time when such measures were boldly advocated by the native newspapers in China, and by many influential Chinese officials, including the distinguished "Li Hong Chang".

Many dispatches have passed between the U.S. Consul Agent at Swatow and the Local Authorities, and between this Consulate and the Higher Authorities of this Province in Canton, and between this Consulate and the United States Legation in Peking, upon this case; until it became necessary to invoke the aid of the Legation in bringing the Tung-li Yamen to vigorous action in undoing the evil acts of the conspirators who were trying to rob an American citizen of his rights and property.

The Chinese Officials near Swatow, and
 in Canton, and in Peking, found it im-
 possible to meet the arguments which
 confronted them at all points, except by
 quibbling about the enormous increase
 of Ashmun's land over the quantity of for-
 shore land covered by his original deed from
 the Chinese Authorities a quarter of a century ago,
 but the entire battle a contest about
 "for-shore rights" had been settled in 1885,
 when the Swatow Bund was authorized
 by the then Viceroy "Chang Chih-tung",
 and the owners of lots fronting the Bund were
 authorized to complete the fillings of their
 lots which had largely increased by silting
 and filling. The Bund was built in 1886.
 Ashmun's frontage on the Bund was and is eight
 hundred and seventy English feet, and his land
 extends back to the pier covered by his original deed
 a considerable distance - over a thousand feet.
 On his land are erected and occupied, besides
 many native shops, numerous large ware-houses
 leased and occupied by foreign and native Mer-
 chants, filled with produce and merchandise.
 The property of S. Ashmun is valued at from two
 to four hundred thousand dollars.
 Being fan-shaped at the head of the estuary or river
 its increase by silting and filling was greater than other lots.

4/

The ^{adjoining} Canton Guild overshadowed all other interests and influences at Canton. The Guild erected stone ports in the middle of Ashmun's property and also on his Bend, claiming ownership; and had Ashmun's employees forcibly driven off the property; and notified Ashmun's tenants to discontinue payments of rents to him. The Guild's lawless acts commenced in 1893, and Ashmun was restored to possession of his property July 21st 1895. In the meantime the Local Authorities sustained all of the outrages of the Guild. Rent matters have changed since 1893, and the Chinese Government now realize that the United States Government has been a friend of priceless value to China during recent emergencies; when other Great Powers waited like vultures for a helpless victim to be devoured. Under these changed circumstances, I feel it ~~it~~ was right to ask the United States Legation to demand, as an act of justice, that the

15

American citizen Ashmore should be rescued from his robbers at Asatow, who, if not in league with the Local Authorities, had been encouraged by them in acts of lawlessness, trespass, and usurpation; which were incompatible with friendly relations between two great Governments; and in violation of the Bound settlement of 1885, and vested rights honestly and lawfully acquired under riparian usage, long possession extending back a quarter of a century, continuous payments of taxes authenticated by officially stamped receipts, and the stipulations of established Treaties between China and the United States and other Western Powers.

Our proud old Minister at Peking, Colonel Denby, rose to the occasion; and, although for awhile the somewhat ridiculous farce was enacted by the Mandarins at Peking promising justice to the American citizen Ashmore, while the Local Authorities and Mandarins invited upon robbing Ashmore of a large portion of his property; I finally came into possession.

6/

of a Copy of a Dispatch from the T'ung-li Yamen to the Viceroy of the Two Kiangs at Canton, stating that the case must be settled immediately, as the existing relations between the two friendly Governments, and the important services rendered by Minister Denby to them in her recent difficulties, must be respected.

I sent a copy of that Dispatch to the Legation, and to Mr Ashmun; and then asked H.E. the Viceroy to instruct the Local Authorities to comply with four essential points for the settlement of the Ashmun case -

1st The removal of the Stone post erected by the Guild on Ashmun's land.

2nd A joint measurement of all of Ashmun's land according to his old established boundaries, with payment of taxes for the same.

3rd A stamped deed for the same to Ashmun.

4th A Proclamation declaring Ashmun the rightful owner of said property.

I was furor of such instructions to H.E.

the new T'ao-tai (acting) "Shung", who succeeded the bad T'ao-tai "Tsen" a few days previously.

5

On that basis we settled the case; and I had the pleasure of seeing Wm. Ashmun Jr. (in the absence of his father, who is now in America) in possession of their valuable property; although the Cheng Kai Magistrate refused for three days to issue a stamped deed to Ashmun, until positive orders, in compliance with urgent telegrams to P.P. the Viceroy, came from the Canton Viceroy to "issue the deed".

The wrath and vengeance of Ashmun's opponents (Guild and Officials) found expression in a murderous assault by two armed ruffians (natives) upon my Interpreter, who had performed for several days some hard work in making my arguments understood by the Mandarin.

The certificates of Dr. Bailey and Rev M. Ashmun^(Copies) as to the Interpreter's disabled condition after the assault, and a copy of the letter from an influential source which fell from one of the assailants in the struggle, were sent to the Legation, to the Chinese Authorities, and are on file at the W.A.C. Mission Agency in Swatow, and in this Consulate, showing that assassination was determined upon to prevent completion of our business.

8

Under the wicked rule of the Guild and Chinese Officials, any attempt to arrest or punish the assassins might have jeopardized the life of Ashmun, and perhaps the lives of others.

It is proper that the valuable and faithful services of the German Consul, Ivo Streich, Esquire, who is our excellent U.S. Consular Agent at Swatow, should be warmly acknowledged. He has been very useful at the outset of these troubles, until his departure last year for Europe, and since his return; and I sincerely wish the Department might express, through his Government, the high appreciation of his guardianship of American interests at Swatow by the entire American Community, and by all who have witnessed his patience, ability, fidelity. While it has fallen to me to do the hammering and pleading upon the Mandarins at Swatow and Canton, and to prepare the facts and arguments in conjunction with Mr. Ashmun for the presentation of the case at Peking, I do

9

most heartily and sincerely acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered by the Legation in the settlement of this important case; the progress of which from 1893 to 1895 inclusive shows great improvement in the relations between the United States of America and China; which is largely due to the able and judicious treatment of inter-national affairs by the United States Minister, Colonel Denby, and in his absence, by the Charge d'Affaires, Mr Charles Denby, Jr.

In conclusion I beg to append copy of a letter from Reverend William Ashmun Jr. in regard to the case marked "A".

In this matter, as in all controversies and contests, I have tried to avoid troubling the Department with cumbersome details, which would necessitate a vast amount of needless writing; but it gives me great pleasure to announce the settlement of a troublesome and important matter.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
Charles Seymour
Minister.



Letter from Mr. Ashmore.

Swatow July 23, 1895.

Charles Seymour Esq.

U. S. Consul Canton.

My dear Mr. Seymour:

At the close of the long hard contest which is now so happily ended, I must beg to be allowed to express to you, in a more formal way than I have yet done, my deep sense of obligation and gratitude to you for your genuine interest in our case, and for the whole hearted way in which you have conducted it to a successful issue.

I recognize this thorough interest on your part as being a most important factor in the result which has been achieved.

You have spared neither time nor thought, but have given both without stint.

Had you shown less of interest or of energy, the end would have been much delayed, if not wholly different from what it is. You have also thoroughly believed in the justice of our cause and this conviction has given force to your conduct of the case.

We are also under deep obligation to Col. Denby the U. S. Minister at Peking, to whom I shall write personally. He has repeatedly and persistently brought the case

2/

to the attention of the Ministers of the Tsung li Yamen and used his great influence with them to secure justice for his countrymen. We well know how much this has had to do with the changed attitude of the provincial and local authorities.

Mr. Strick, too, the German Consul, and our own Consular Agent at Swatow, richly deserves a word of most hearty recognition for his real interest and help from beginning to end, in a case which concerned those of another nationality than his own. His presence at the meetings of last week was also a great help to us.

Above all I most gratefully recognize God's good hand in this thing. It was of his ordering that our country should at this time be represented by two such men, as Minister Deuby and yourself who believe that a missionary does not by reason of his vocation forget the common rights of men. Further, while the Guild assailed us at a time when we were at a disadvantage by reason of national disfavor, the end has come at a time, when, in God's providence, our country stands in special favor by reason of signal service rendered China by her representatives.

Who would ^{have} ventured to predict such a change in the space of about three years? Surely we do well to recognize God's hand in the result. For ourselves, not only has our claim to a

5

valuable ~~piece~~ of property been established, but
what is of far greater importance, the honor of
my father's name, and the integrity of his con-
duct which had been assailed, have been
vindicated.

Again with most hearty thanks,
I am,

Sincerely yours
(Signed) Wm. Ashmore Jr.

Mr. Faison
Act &
Cond. to pay
Oct 26

No. 285-



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, September 3, 1895

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Renewal of Official bond.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

No. 285

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, September 3^d 1895

Honorable Edwin F. Ahl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Circular of July 2nd 1895, about renewal of official bond; and shall send the same soon to my bondsmen for their signatures, and cause the same to be completed according to requirements.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
W. Seymour

No. 286

BUR. OF STATISTICS
ACKNOWLEDGED, OCT 25



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, China, September 7th 1895

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transportation between Eastern Asia
and the United States.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

Existing arrangements against American
Exports, but favorable to Asiatic Exports.
Ocean War against American interests
Demands vigorous measures to secure
better facilities for reaching Asiatic markets.



No. 287

Gen. Bureau



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, *September 14th 1895*

Mr. Seymour.

To the Department of State.

*Approved
Nov. 26, 1895
Act. Nov. 27/95*

SUBJECT:

*Interpreter "Woo Kevok Tsai",
and
Officials in this consulate*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*"Woo Kevok Tsai" Interpreter -
Including list of officials in this consulate. No. 1*

Department of State,

CONSULAR BUREAU,

Nov^r 14, 1895.

Mr. Whe: I
recommend
that Mr. Woo be
appointed Interpreter at
Canton.

E L Whittemore
Acting Chief Bureau.

Mr. Rockwell

Your opinion

Please

E.H.H.

Mr. Whelan



I am on principle opposed
to the use of natives as
interpreters but in view
of the miserable salary
of the job we have to
put up with them, and I
have no doubt that Mr
Seymour has got the
best Chinaman he
could - I think he should
be appointed.

Approved E.H.H. M.R.

No. 287

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, ~~China~~, ~~September~~ 14th - 1895

Honorable Edwin D. Uhl

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that it is one of the most difficult things for a foreign Consul in China to get a competent and trusty Interpreter; who is qualified for the post, and aloof from intrigue with the lower grade of Mandarins and local native officials to obtain "tribute money" from gambling dens and brothels in consideration of or for exemption from arrest on complaint of Interpreter; and reliable for truthful interpretation between the Chinese and native officials, without deceit or obsequiousness.

2/

I have found those Chinese students who were educated in the United States, under the auspices of the Chinese Government, the best qualified for the duties of Interpreter.

During the year and a half since our former Interpreter, Chien Poy Woo, resigned to accept a better position, this Consulate had to test the qualifications of best available applicants for the post; and now it is gratifying to state that another of the Chinese Students, referred to as Hainingben educated in the United States, has been secured as Interpreter since June 30th 1895, named Mr.

"Woo Kewok Tsai", who has, for the past ten years, been Flag Lieutenant in the Chinese Navy, under Admiral Ting. When the Chinese Government shall have a new Navy, Mr. Woo will have to return to the Government service of China; but in the meantime this Consulate has the services of a very trustworthy and competent Interpreter, according to "Hong Kong Kai", who is arranging to get into Chinese Customs Service.

Herewith I beg to inclose list of officials of this Consulate. I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Charles Legrand
H. Legrand

No. 288



Consulate of the United States,

Canton, *November 18th 1895*

file

Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Condition of affairs at and about Canton.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Including extracts from newspapers -
four pages*

$\frac{1}{A}$ to $\frac{4}{B}$.

No. 288

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, ~~March~~ 18th - 1895

Honorable Edwin F. Hall.

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
herewith extracts from newspapers,
showing what has transpired at and
about Canton recently, and what
may be anticipated in this and other
portions of China, as the result of the
deep-seated and wide-spread spirit of
turbulence, significantly manifested
in various parts of the Empire; of
which the Department had intimation
in my dispatch No. 279, of March 26th 1895.

4
pages

2/

Tidings of the progress of the Mohammedan
 rebellion in the Northwestern Province of Kuen,
 and the probability that the rebellious forces will
 be greatly re-inforced by adjoining multitudes
 in the Provinces of Shensi, Szechuan, Kueih
 and Hunan, with the prospect that insti-
 gants of the Empire disloyalty and discontent
 will weaken the power of the Authorities
 to suppress a general rebellion, have given
 the disloyal spirits of Kiangtung and
 other Provinces of Southern China encour-
 agement to make attempts to over-
 throw those in authority.

The first attempt failed at Canton
 on Monday, 28th October, 1895, when
 the expedition, organized in Hongkong,
 numbering about five hundred coolies,
 with revolvers surreptitiously imported
 in barrels ascendant, fell into the hands
 of the Authorities. There had been rumors
 about some conspiracy to capture Canton;
 but no one seemed to comprehend how or
 when the blow would strike, until 7th Oct.
 Sunday evening, October 27th, when important
 disclosures were confidentially made to me.

3

Treachery is alleged by some of the newspapers in Hong Kong, where the conspiracy was nurtured and encouraged; but the warning came from Hong Kong on Sunday afternoon (27th October) in two telegrams addressed to the native who had the reputation of having been the leader, and who fled from Canton on the previous day (Saturday 26th) to avoid arrest. Those telegrams fell into the hands of a person who was not in any way connected with the conspiracy. They were not very clear or definite; but were sufficient to indicate serious work at hand. Through an American missionary I learned the facts; and between seven and eight o'clock that evening I conferred with my colleagues, and the Agents of the River Steamers, and had the Commission of Enquiry attend to the matter. Commissioner Farago soon dispatched a steam-launch, with several Customs House officials to board the three incoming steamboats from Hong Kong at Whampoa, 12 miles distant, to inspect passengers and cargo, and thus be able to give the facts to the Authorities.

4

It is now rumored that another and more serious attempt will soon be made to repeat things at Canton; and that bombs are to be used; and that a foreigner is first to be killed, as the surest way of involving the Authorities in trouble.

It is known that two foreigners occupied a mill-museum building in Canton (Hunan side) from July 15th to October 28th. The first was an Englishman named E. C. Brick, an Assayer and Chemist, who was deported from Honolulu for too much zeal in the "Royal Cause" - the other being a German named Stiehlmann; and both of them were in constant communication with the native "Sun Man", the recognized leader of the Conspiracy here, to whom those afore-mentioned telegrams were addressed. Therefore, it is believed that the threatened bomb raid may be among the possibilities. ^{dynamite and other} high explosives were found in ^{brick} house. It is to be seen by press-extracts included that Hong Kong is giving aid and comfort to the conspiracy.

There have been large bands of bandits operating in the Northeastern and Southeastern parts of Kwangtung Province at various times this year, with very feeble resistance or suppression from the local authorities; and there is nothing encouraging as to their abilities to cope with a really formidable organization of turbulent forces.

I have kept the Legation and the Consulate General fully informed about these matters; but just now it looks as if there would be a series of disturbances which will make this part of China anything but tranquil and comfortable, as the authorities never seemed so dazed and impotent as now.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

P.S.

It is proper to add that circumstances have enabled ^{to be} some of service to the "native Christians" in the recent disturbances, as many of them, although innocent, were seriously involved by two or three active participants in the conspiracy, being ^{the Chinese} ^{Protestant Mission} ^{for} ^{C.S.} ^{Christians}, and one of them an Ex-preacher.

From the China Gazette, Shanghai.
Nov 2. 1895.

Aid and Comfort.

From the China Mail.
Hong Kong.
Nov 7. 1895.

Throughout the country there is a justifiable ferment of discontent at official oppression and misrule, and we are waiting to see other districts take heart of grace from the successes of the Mahomedans in the North to bid defiance to the Manchu power at Peking. The latest news from Shanghai tells of the annihilation of an Imperial army of twenty battalions sent to check the Moslems, who are slowly but surely increasing their hold on the Northern Province of Kansu. The Canton rising was strangled at its birth. There are many Europeans still hopeful that the rebellious elements in the South will yet rise against the Manchus, but we are less hopeful now. It may seem strange to us who refer to hopes for rebellion, but to those who know China at all well it will not appear altogether incongruous. Without rebellion there is little hope of betterment in China for the general masses of the people. Rebellion would give the Foreign Powers reasonable excuse for interference, and therein lies the true hope of the Chinese people. There can be no faith in the nebulous Chinese schemes for internal reform.

THE THREATENED REBELLION IN SOUTH CHINA.

The China Gazette makes the following comments on the threatened attack upon Canton and rebellion in South China:—

The premature disclosure of their intentions appears to have foiled the rebels for the time at least, but it would be too much to say just yet that it has completely killed the movement. We fancy that the dissemination of the news that the real Chinese people contemplate some such move will rather serve to prepare their millions of sympathisers in every part of the empire and give them time to get ready for a more favourable opportunity. Private advices to Chinese residents here for some time past have disclosed a very uneasy feeling amongst the better classes in Canton, and it is well known that the Triad, White Lily and other kindred organizations in Kwangtung have been very active ever since they were shown by the Japanese how feeble the mandarins and how faithless and cowardly the Imperial soldiers are. A rebellion in the South simultaneously with that in the North-west would sadly cripple the strength of Peking, already badly shattered, and China knows pretty well now that she could not rely, because of her own hideous treachery, upon the strong arm which saved her thirty-five years ago from a similar rebellion started in the South. Had the outbreak at Canton not been forestalled there is no saying what the position might be at the present moment, indeed it is hard to say what it is even now. The rebellious movement has, we are fully prepared to hear, been largely organized outside the China dominions, namely in Hongkong, the Straits, Australia, and America, and it is no secret that the Cantonese everywhere sympathise with it and would go to great lengths to put an end to the unfortunate dynasty which has brought China to the lowest ebb she has ever reached in her long history. But that they would make a better show against the Imperialists, and the Tartars especially, after their miserable exploits under the humbug Liu Yung-fuh in Formosa we very much doubt. Now that that much-overrated and ridiculous popular hero is safe in Kwangtung from the Japanese, it will be interesting to watch how he will employ his opportunities. His bogus 'rebellion' in

Formosa was hatched by the Viceroy at Canton and his confreres in Nanking, and it is a just Nemesis that causes the plotter in the former city to be physicked with his own medicine. The 'braves' of Liu are said to be supremely disgusted at the scurvy treatment they received from the Chinese Government on whom they relied, and we fully expect to find these heroes recruiting the forces of the possible rebels. The movement is by no means dead, and we read that a few days before his mysterious death, the late Governor of Canton, Ma Pi-in, sent to some distant places to recruit a thousand soldiers to defend the city, which indicates that the forces supposed to exist for its defence are as usual a long way under its strength. We have only heard of the beginning of the Canton rebellion, and though it has been nipped for a time, we are very much mistaken if it does not rear its head again.

From the Hong Kong Press.

THE ATTEMPTED INSURRECTION AT CANTON.

30th October.

There can be no doubt now that the six hundred harmless looking and cashless coolies who left Hongkong for Canton by the steamer *Powan* on Sunday night were intended to swell the ranks of belligerents who are aiming at the destruction of the present dynasty. Inquiries which have been made by Inspectors Stanton and Quincey prove that the tale about the men being wanted as soldiers for the Chinese Government was merely a blind and was floated in order to make the coolies all the more ready to leave the colony. For some days past a Chinaman in Hongkong has been engaged in getting together men for the express purpose of enlisting them as rebels, but they themselves never knew until they were on the way to Canton what they were really wanted for. Some Chinese in Hongkong who profess to know the exact position of affairs say that a large rebel army has been got together; indeed the number is put at between 12,000 and 15,000. Of these six thousand were organised at Wuchow, three thousand in the Ching Un district, and three thousand in Waichanfu. There is a further rumour about the colony that the majority of these men have assembled at Tungshan temple, near Whampoa, and that an attack on the city of Canton will shortly be made. Whether this intention will be carried out remains to be seen; in most quarters it is thought that the scheme will quickly die of inanition.

The story of how these "gallant six hundred" were got together is interesting. A Chinaman who is well known in the colony, but whose name for obvious reasons cannot be made public, recently received an order from somebody to engage men to take part in the rising. Who this principal is is not known, nor is it known who supplied the funds. However, the Hongkong Chinaman engaged one or two assistants, and told them that six hundred men were wanted as soldiers for the Chinese Government, and that they were to get a free passage to Canton and \$10 a month. It can be readily imagined that this enticing bait was quickly swallowed, and soon the required number was obtained. It was not until Sunday morning that one of the assistants, who lived at Hongham, was made acquainted with the real facts. He was then told by a leader that the men were to be sent that night to Canton, where they were to join a rebellious army which had been organised. On the voyage each man was to receive a cotton

red sash, and each leader was to wear a silk sash and would also have a whistle. The rebels were to attack the Manchus and Banner-men, and revolvers, which had been shipped on the *Powan*, would be distributed when the gang arrived. If the Customs officers arrested any of the number on board the instructions were that the prisoners were to go quietly at first, but at a given signal the remainder had to fire on the officers and effect a rescue. The man was further informed that two thousand men had already left Macao for Canton, and that there were also three thousand weavers in the city, all of whom would aid in the rising; they could be distinguished by the red sashes. Until this information was vouchsafed the man was under the impression that soldiers were really wanted, but when he found he had been working in ignorance of the true state of things, he threw over all responsibility and refused to take further part in the affair.

Contrary to expectations the *Powan* did carry a large number of revolvers and ammunition on board. They were all packed in five cement casks, but were not touched during the voyage. Strict secrecy was kept as to the nature of this cargo, which of course the police were not empowered to search before the vessel left for Canton. On Monday, however, they made inquiries at the shop of Kwong Hing Un, 81, Praya Central. This firm does business as exporters and also undertakes to pay Customs duty. On Sunday a man named Fuk-chenny went to the Kwong Hing Un shop and said that five casks of cement had been consigned by the *Powan* to his shop in Canton, but he wanted the address altered. The firm consented to alter the address, and a coolie was sent to Canton by the steamer to attend to the delivery of the casks. At 8.30 in the evening Kwong Hing Un received a telegram stating that the coolie had been arrested because the five barrels of cement contained a large number of revolvers. Until this telegram arrived Kwong Hing Un was unaware that the casks contained arms.

It seems that most of the arms were bought at the shop of Lam Wan, a dealer in arms, of 191, Queen's Road Central; but it is said that in addition to these a large quantity has been sent over in junks. The transaction with Lam Wan resulted in his getting into trouble. The police visited his shop and found that he had not conformed to the law relating to the sale of arms. In many cases he had omitted to enter in his book the name of the purchaser, and not in a single instance did he enter the address and occupation of the purchaser. He was summoned for these breaches of the law, and at the Police Court yesterday he pleaded guilty and was fined \$20.

Respecting the sashes it is interesting to note that the men showed great reluctance to wear them. Before reaching Canton one of the leaders produced the sashes and explained to the men what they were for; those who took them would get a dollar and those who refused would not. The men were in a quandary; they wanted the dollar, but not the sash. Many of them were certainly disappointed and angry at being misled, and in many cases the sash was refused. A leader exclaimed, "There are arms on board, and they will be distributed to you. If there is any opposition you are to use them when your chiefs tell you." This statement made the coolies more alarmed still, and even those who had pocketed the sashes hesitated. A detective, who had been specially sent on board, overheard the statement and told one of the crew to speak to the chief officer, but the message was not conveyed, and fortunately the arms were not distributed. The seizure of the weapons at Canton doubtless upset the whole of the arrangements of the rebellious party; but it cannot be thought that even if the casks had passed through unnoticed much harm would have been done. The coolies doubtless had never seen a revolver before; at any rate they had never handled such a weapon, and the likelihood is that they would have done more harm to themselves than any one else had they attempted to use them.

The attempted rising is said to have been planned by the secret societies. The Canton authorities are said to be really alarmed and to be propagating the idea that the movement is directed against the foreign settlement, the

motive for this being to secure foreign assistance in case of an actual outbreak occurring.

The idea that Ma, the late Governor of Canton, was poisoned is still entertained in some quarters and it is suggested that the crime was perpetrated in order to facilitate the intended insurrection, as the deceased official, who was a very alert man, was considered likely to prove a formidable obstacle to the execution of the plot. As already reported, however, the poisoning theory is not generally credited by the Chinese.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PAO" *Hong Kong.*]

A letter has been received from Canton to the effect that a man named Soon-mun secretly hired scoundrels who were lodged in a large house named Wong-ka-chi, in Theam-mun-ti, with the intention to overthrow the present dynasty, but the matter came to the knowledge of the officials, who immediately sent a military officer named Li-ka-cheuk to surround the house in question with soldiers on the 26th inst. Soon-mun, however, got wind of this and escaped. Only two men were arrested. Another house which was formerly occupied by more than one hundred men in the street of Ham-ha-lan was searched by Li-ka-cheuk on the same day. Three men were arrested and two large pans and fifteen axes were found in the house.

On the 27th instant when the steamer *Powan*, which brought from Hongkong four hundred coolies, arrived at Canton, Li-ka-cheuk, who had been informed that there were rebels amongst the passengers, went with soldiers to examine every passenger. Forty out of the four hundred were arrested and a piece of red cloth was found on the person of each of the forty prisoners. They all confessed that they were hired to come to Canton by two men named Yau Sz and Chu Kwai-chuen, who were also among those arrested. They said they were each to receive ten dollars as wages and before they left Hongkong they were given fifty cents as passage money. They have now all been handed over to the magistrate of Namhoi. They said that the standard of rebellion was to be raised on the ground in front of the yamen of the Provincial Treasurer and that the intention was that they should make their way to the district of Fa-un and from thence to the Northern provinces.

CHINA MAIL

Hong Kong
Oct 30. 1895

THE RUMOURED RISING IN CANTON.

Over six months ago the *China Mail* drew attention to certain facts which indicated the probability of a rising in South China before very long. Further inquiries put us in possession of information which we did not feel justified in making public at the time, for reasons which will be obvious to anyone who gives the matter careful thought. Since then, preparations for a rebellion on a complete scale have been going forward, and such details as have come to our knowledge in confidence we have kept to ourselves for the time, and respected the confidence. Now, however, the secret has leaked out, through various channels, and it seems impossible to keep it quiet any longer. The stories that are going about are in some cases grossly misleading, and it is as well that the truth should be known.

The scheme in principle is the natural outcome of Manchurian misrule. We need hardly go into details to make it clear that no people would long be content to tolerate such a reign of iniquity as that of the present officials; a grasping, greedy gang of unconscionable harpies, from the highest to the lowest, using their positions solely for the purpose of legalised plunder and without the slightest idea of studying the well-fare of the people or the country.

Where the victims can get no redress there is bound to be discontent, and seething discontent is chronic in China, in every part of it. It becomes the more active in those parts where the people have more spirit and intelligence, and this is especially the case in Kwangtung, well known as the most unruly of all the eighteen provinces under the Manchu conquest. The natural disaffection of a miserable people under perpetual misgovernment and oppression leads generally to the formation of secret societies, and China is honey-combed with these organisations, which were practically unknown prior to this dynasty. And while such stealthy process of fermentation is going on unseen, every now and then an open outbreak occurs, sometimes purely local and aimless, sometimes determined, widespread, and nearly successful, as with the Taipings. Officialdom, quaking in its shoes, has in recent years managed to divert the restlessness of the ignorant populace into a side-track, as it were, by means of anti-foreign riots; the people are led more or less to regard foreigners as the root of all evil, and the natural elements of disturbance thus find an outlet without endangering mandarindom as a whole.

But of course, as more and more of the Chinese attained a real comprehension of the position, proportionately more and more of them came to see that the real enemy of China is its official class, with the literary class that is dependent on it as hoping to enter its ranks. So, the spread of enlightenment has gradually tended to affect the methods of the malcontents, by more clearly defining their objects and also indicating the difficulties and the ways of meeting them.

Thus, if not now, the time will come (unless China is too soon partitioned among the Powers) when all the secret societies will draw together and form one huge anti-Manchu organisation, and will realise that the work of accomplishing their desire, the regeneration of their oppressed and wretched country, can only be accomplished with foreign aid; and that foreign aid is not only very difficult to obtain (of good quality) but must be carefully introduced so as not to injure China in the process. It is a task of Herculean difficulty, and the present abortive affair at Canton is only the beginning of a series of determined efforts to solve the problem.

The first step, as the leaders of the patriotic movement have long ago recognised to some extent, is to get foreign aid. In the Taiping rebellion a lot of foreign adventurers were called in, and did more harm than good. In the Kolao disturbance in the Yangtse valley three years ago the stamp of foreigners engaged was slightly better, but not much. Of the present affair we prefer to say nothing yet in this direction.

The second step is to give the foreign friends of the movement a free hand, having of course selected men worthy of such confidence. The need for this is shown by the fact that the Chinese cannot trust each other. There has been treachery at work among them; a prominent Chinaman who appeared to be genuinely reliable has revealed what he knew, and the scheme consequently has fallen through for the time.

A third essential is to have the forces thoroughly under control. All over the world, when a wretched populace does rise en masse, the first temptation is to attack the rich, without any more reason than that they are rich; and foreigners, who are always in the eyes of a Chinese coolie rich and prosperous, are naturally the first prey of a mob. Foreigners in the interior are almost exclusively missionaries, and hence mobs always acquire a sort of anti-Christian tendency. It is this inevitable antagonism of rich and poor that has led to a rumour that the Canton rising was aimed at the foreign settlement. Nothing of the sort was ever contemplated; in fact, a part of the plan was to appoint guards round the settlement and at the principal points in the city, to carefully prevent outrage. But as in the French Revolution, wealth alone would be a danger to its owners, however innocent.

The plan of campaign was simple enough, and as it has now been re-

vealed to the authorities, we shall not be injuring a patriotic movement by publishing it. A Chinese city is easy to capture by surprise; the garrison usually has no weapons at hand, the townfolk usually retreat indoors during a riot instead of offering opposition. Men and arms can always be smuggled into a city, and the only requisite is secrecy until the signal is given for attack; then concerted action is bound to overcome the inveterate unpreparedness of Chinese officialdom. Canton being captured, the revolutionary party intended to proclaim a provisional government and at once proceed to strengthen their position in every way possible.

(Continuation from China Mail, Hong Kong)

Funds enough would be available, from the ill-gotten hoards of the officials, to raise an army and engage foreign officers to train it; and having once made a good start, and established the second city of the Empire as the seat of government, the whole country would be called on to rise against the Manchus, who would be far outnumbered. The country would be thrown open to foreigners, causing very speedily an immense amelioration in the condition of the people. The administration would be placed on an honest basis, squeezing abolished (if possible!), and countless other nice-sounding reforms introduced.

That at any rate was the intention. It may have been far too good to carry out, but it cannot be said that the reform party did not mean well, and to that extent it deserved support and encouragement. Good intentions, even if badly executed, should not be crushed but should be assisted into better ways by all possible means. The Revolutionists at least could not be worse than the present rulers.

Now, however, the revolution appears to have collapsed 'with a dull dead thud.' The men and arms were conveyed to Canton, we believe, but that is all. Something went wrong with the arms; they were shipped as barrels of cement, to be delivered through a certain hong, of which the employees were not in the secret; and they got tampering with the 'cement,' discovered the arms, and the cat was out of the bag. So there cannot be any great disturbance for the present and the dynasty has perhaps obtained a new lease of life. What use will it make of this? To issue stringent orders for the prevention of conspiracies? In China such orders are absurd. The only prevention is by the method which a British Government adopts to defeat a too threatening opposition, namely by taking a leaf out of the enemy's book, forestalling his reforms, and so cutting away the ground under his feet. China will never do this, will never voluntarily reform; and the need for reform will drive the malcontents to more determined and better-planned attempts until finally they succeed, and the Manchu dynasty will give place to an era of regeneration.

PROCLAMATION. By Magistrates.

It is understood that there are desperadoes who have secretly conveyed arms, ammunition and explosives to Canton and laid them up here with the intention to disturb the City. We have already sent out police and soldiers to trace where they are stored, but we also offer a reward to all you people that if you know precisely where this ammunition and these contraband goods are to be found, and report the same, you are entitled to receive the price of those confiscated houses and arms as a recompense for your service. If any of you, not knowing the fact, have your house or shop rented to those desperadoes to secrete their arms &c., will come and point them out to the officials, your property shall not be con-

fiscated, besides, you will have the price as your reward.

Issued by Li Ka Cheuk and the Magistrates of Nam Hoi and Pun-ü.

The Chinese Mail (Wah Tsz Yat Po) says that the Nam Hoi and Punyu Magistrates yesterday jointly issued a proclamation ordering the conspirators to destroy the red sashes which they use as their distinguishing mark and to return to their native country to become peaceful subjects. The proclamation also mentions the names of Suen Man and Yeung Ku Wan as the chief organisers of this rebellion.

THE THREATENED RISING IN CANTON.

NUMEROUS ARRESTS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Canton, October 29.

A number of arrests have been made by the police of men suspected of being in league with the scheme to capture the city. It seems that rumour led to suspicion of the in-coming steamer this morning, and several men among the passengers were arrested who were supposed to be leaders, and it is said a motley crowd of some 500 passengers were credited with being a part of the force which were to remodel our city government on a plane of higher civilization.

Whatever the plans may have been of those who meditated revolution, the police seem to have got the start of them, and in the absence of any organized or disciplined force, it does not seem probable that the present effort will amount to anything more than a big scare.

On the arrival of the *Powam* on Monday morning forty men were arrested out of the four hundred men, said to be hired rebels, landed from that steamer. They stated during the examination, that among the arrested were two leaders, Chu Kwei-chim and Yau Sz, that their mission was to hire soldiers, each to receive \$10 a month. Four hundred men were engaged and told to go on board a steamer, where each received 50 cents and a piece of red sash. They were then instructed with the watchword 'Chu Po On Leung' ('Down with the oppressors and peace be to the good'). On landing they were to be supplied with arms. The two leaders, on being questioned about the barrels of arms, shipped as 'cement,' said that this was not the first time such a trick was used. They also confessed that over twenty houses were rented in Canton for lodging these men, that the rebellious army numbers about forty thousand. The original intention was to rendezvous at Canton, and to deliver the first attack on the Yamen of the Provincial Treasurer. If success attended their efforts, they would then march to Fa Yuen and Ching Un, whence they would head for the North.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Canton, Nov. 1.

General quiet prevails in the City, but rumours are afloat and exaggerated or false stories are told about persons supposed to be implicated in the recent attempt of the 500 liberators who descended from your Colony, and whose plans dissipated in smoke before the steamer reached the Wharf.

Rumour gives the name of one Su Nam as the leader of the patriots, and he has been known for some years in your city, as well as in Canton, as a man whose character was not above suspicion and whose patriotism was not an unadulterated virtue. Those who know him are not surprised that the scheme so deeply planned has turned out such a ridiculous fiasco. His qualifications for leadership are not attested by his wisdom in making good his escape twenty hours before the arrival of his comrades, but it will be a happy deliverance to his followers and friends if the uncertain tenure by which he hereafter holds his head will prevent his return to his old haunts.

A proclamation issued two days ago exhorted those who were deluded into this rebellion to throw away their red sashes and return peaceably to their homes.

Another proclamation (a translation of which is enclosed) offers rewards which are designed to lead to the discovery of arms and war material that may be secreted in the city.



BUR. OF STATISTICS
ACKNOWLEDGED
FEB 12 1898

(R)

No. 288^{bis}

Consulate of the United States,

Canton, December 27th 1895



Mr. Seymour

To the Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transportation - Continuation of No. 286.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

*Expansion of the plan of Cheap freight
for Steamships from China to New York,
via Suez Canal, at Sailing Ships rates.*

*The inauguration of the cheap rate of
25% sterling per ton of 40 cubic feet
by independent Steamships has
brought the great "Conference" lines of
British Steamers down from 55% to 30% with
the usual rebate of 10% to regular patrons.
American Commerce needs similar rates
from New York to Eastern Asia.*

